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& Isaac C. Fleet

THE NONCONFORMIST.

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CONTENTS.

ECCLÉSIASTICAL:—	
The Season of Blossoming.....	285
The Anti-state-church Conference—Summary and Sketch of First Day's Proceedings—List of Representatives, &c.....	285
COMPLETE SUFFRAGE	288
FOREIGN NEWS:—	
France, Spain, Portugal, Foreign Miscellany ..	289
METROPOLITAN	290
POSTSCRIPT	291
POLITICAL ARTICLES:—	
Summary.....	292
Eastern Commerce and	
Eastern Wars.....	292
The Masters and Servants bill.....	292
Law Reform	293
IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT ..	293
Mr Ferrand—Mr Roebuck and Smythe—The Factories' bill—The Budget—Miscellaneous.....	294
PROVINCIAL	296
IRELAND	296
SCOTLAND	296
MISCELLANEOUS:—	
Everybody's Column ..	297
MARRIAGES AND DEATHS ..	298
TRADE AND COMMERCE ..	298
ADVERTISEMENTS	299

Ecclesiastical Affairs.

THE SEASON OF BLOSSOMING.

BEFORE the present number of the *Nonconformist* has reached the majority of its readers, the deliberations of the Anti-state-church Conference will be drawing to a close. How it will speed in its momentous undertaking—what will be the prevailing tone which will vibrate through its discussions, the precise character of its decisions, and the ultimate effects it will produce—it were vain for us to conjecture. We shall not attempt it. It is our business rather to contemplate the present, than to penetrate the future—and to soothe all anxiety as to what may be, by indulging an unaffected joy in what already is. It is now the season of blossoming, and the show is full of promise. The number of delegates appointed—large beyond the expectations whether of friends or of foes—the variety of constituencies which they represent—the profound interest with which, in most cases, they evidently look forward to this important convention—the character of the men—the sacrifices they are necessarily and cheerfully making in order to be present on the occasion—the whole aspect of things as, at the present moment, it meets our eye—tend to lift up our hopes, to clear a wide pathway upon which for anticipation to march onward, and to deepen our desire and our prayer, that coming times may look back upon the Anti-state-church Conference of 1844, with mingled reverence and gratitude as the commencement of an enterprise second only, in its beneficent results, to Christianity itself.

There is a moral magnificence about the opening of this great drama which strikes us dumb with wonder. It is altogether of a different order from the phenomena with which we have become most familiar. The brief but dignified appeal sent forth by the Executive Committee, scarcely six weeks since, has awakened a response having all the characteristics of manly and religious sincerity—a response, echoed back in the present instance, not from the prominent and noticeable points of nonconforming society, but from its obscurer vales and more secluded retreats—a response which, in order to make itself heard, has had to pierce through a deadening atmosphere of oppressive influences, and surmount obstructions which until now had been deemed insuperable. It is from our important towns that the great body of delegates have come. Save in a few instances, and those mostly from beyond the Tweed, those delegates are not the men of name and note among dissenters. No! but it is from our country churches, from places little known, and districts quite remote from the public gaze, that the main host of representatives troop forth—and, in general, they are men who, coming in close contact with the workings of the state-church system, and driven to see the most baneful of its practical results, have silently nurtured against it a zeal which has long struggled to express itself, and which, at the trumpet call of the Executive Committee, started up into a determination strong enough to set at naught all opposing influence, and to disregard all the forms of conventional and courteous deference to the opinions of others which in lesser matters had been habitually and not unwillingly rendered.

The taunt which has been thrown out against the character of the Conference, because that assembly will consist chiefly of unknown men, does not trouble us—in truth, we are fain to stoop and pick it up from the place where it has fallen, and adopt it as

a cherished ornament. What has prompted these unknown men to hurry forth in crowds to the present gathering? They have not been wont to make a noise in the world, or their names would have been more familiar to the public ear. They have not lived, it is quite evident, upon the husks of personal ambition. They must be quiet men in their several spheres, for nobody seems to have heard of their violence, and restlessness has not pushed them into notoriety. Why should they have answered the summons they had received? No distinguished leaders beckoned them forward, and authority, so far as it could operate, operated to discourage their advance. They do not strike in with the stream, but against it. They have no views of temporary expediency to allure them in this direction—all such views lie on the other side of the mountain. They could look to reap for themselves in this enterprise nothing but a harvest of difficulties. Popularity has not fascinated them by its smiles, for popularity has its back turned upon the movement. They have not been teased into it by importunate activity. All the agencies which have been at work to bring about the result have been of the simplest, least noisy, and most unpretending order. And yet these men come in their hundreds—come from all parts of the country—come at great expense to themselves—to take their part, their silent but earnest part, in the Anti-state-church Conference. How is this? What will account for it? Into what theory do facts like these resolve themselves. We can hit upon but one probable solution, and it is this—that the representatives are, in most instances, men really intent upon the object they profess to seek, and ready, in promoting it, both to spend and be spent.

And, whatever may be the immediate issue of the present Conference, this especial feature of it fills us with hope for the future. There is heart among dissenters yet—a beating heart. There is knowledge enough, conscience enough, manliness enough, amongst them—all hidden until now, and like stars of general worth, never known to exist until a leadership has led them out to view, and to conduct this movement to a position of commanding importance. Plainly there is material enough out of which to construct an edifice of vast moral power. This Conference may succeed in fusing it into liquidity, and transferring it to appropriate moulds, or it may not. But there it is—an almost exhaustless quarry of energy and determination, which needs only the application of wisdom and skill, to turn to valuable account. These requisites the Conference may bring to bear upon it, or it may fail of doing so. We rejoice in the knowledge of its existence, and its whereabouts. Certain also we are that so many men cannot unitedly and intently gaze upon one common truth without being more deeply impressed than ever with its importance—cannot disperse to their several homes without carrying along with them, each to his own neighbourhood, a deeper sense of responsibility, and more solemn resolutions of service, in reference to the subversion of the system of Antichrist, than ever they had previously cherished.

Yes! 'tis the season of blossoming. Bleak and wintry winds, it is true, may nip the goodly flowers which now come out, and cast them to the earth, mere withered inanities. But surely some fruit—not a little—may be fairly anticipated from so glorious a profusion of bloom. We cannot reasonably doubt it. Six hundred representatives, met to deliberate upon the best methods of subverting the state-church principle, is a fact out of which something real and tangible must hereafter grow. It is not a matter for derision. No sneering can hide its substantial importance. It constitutes a memorable phenomenon of the present times. It is ominous in its aspect upon church establishments. To all the sincere and intelligent friends of true Christianity it offers matter for hearty congratulation. There is an obvious analogy between the present appearance of the natural and of the spiritual worlds;

"For lo! the winter is past,
The rain is over and gone;
The flowers appear on the earth;
The time of singing of birds is come,
And the voice of the turtle is heard in our land;
The fig tree putteth forth her green figs,
And the vines with the tender grape give a good smell."

THE ANTI-STATE-CHURCH CONFERENCE.

Yesterday morning, the Anti-state-church Conference commenced its sittings. Long before the hour appointed for the meeting, delegates were seen flocking to the Crown and Anchor; and by eleven o'clock, the spacious hall attached to that hotel was crowded. The list of delegates numbered upwards of seven hundred, and, judging from the appearance of the meeting, we should say that very few indeed were absent. The platform was chiefly occupied by members of the General and Executive Committees, amongst whom we observed Drs Marshall, Young, Ritchie, Thomson, and MacFarlane—four of the distinguished men who, fourteen years ago, laid the foundation of that voluntary controversy and agitation in Scotland, the practical fruit of which is visible in the secession of the "Free Church"—W. S. Crawford, Esq., M.P., Dr Bowring, M.P., several delegates from Ireland—Professors Wright and Kellog, from the United States of America—Joseph Sturge, Josiah Pumphrey, and Arthur Albright, Esqs., of the Society of Friends—and a number of the most influential ministers of every denomination of English dissenters. A good many ladies were also present, and a number of distinguished visitors appeared to take a deep interest in the scene.

The Rev. John Burnet, of Camberwell, was unanimously called to the chair. After a few and appropriate remarks, he called on

Dr Cox, secretary to the Executive Committee, who read an able and important paper in defence and explanation of the objects of the Conference. After reading this paper, the reverend doctor, amid the enthusiastic plaudits of the Conference, declared that he could no longer continue to distribute, as he had formerly done, the *regium donum* to English dissenters.

Mr W. S. Crawford, M.P. for Rochdale, next addressed a few words to the meeting, and met with a most cordial reception. He expressed his conviction that there could be no security for religious or civil freedom, while the connexion between the church and the state remained, and his readiness to co-operate with the Conference, both in person and out of it, in furthering the objects they were met to advance.

Dr Bowring, M.P., also briefly addressed the conference in a similar strain, and amid the warmest applause.

Some routine business was then transacted, and a few preliminary resolutions were passed. These were mostly moved and seconded *pro forma*; the only speaker who entered on the general question being Dr Young of Perth, who spoke with much spirit, and in his usual terse and practical style. The remainder of the sitting was principally engrossed with an elaborate and important paper from Dr Wardlaw, who felt it to be entirely out of his power to attend. The Conference adjourned at three o'clock till five.

EVENING SITTING.

The Conference met again at 5 o'clock. The Rev. A. Marshall, of Kirkintilloch, was called to the chair. He addressed the Conference at some length—giving an interesting account of the rise, progress, and present state of the voluntary principle in Scotland.

On the motion of the Rev. C. Stovel, who delivered a powerful speech, a series of resolutions were adopted, based on the letter of Dr Wardlaw—the phraseology, on the suggestion of Mr Sturge, being slightly modified.

Mr E. Miall then read a paper, embracing the whole question of civil establishment of religion, considered in their nature and effects—which met with the most cordial approbation of the Conference, and was ordered to be published in the record of the proceedings. The Conference adjourned at nine o'clock till this morning at ten.

SKETCH OF THE FIRST DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

[By an Eye-witness.]

Crown and Anchor, London, April 30, 1844.

THE Anti-state-church Conference is gathering. Seven hundred delegates have been estimated; that bids fair to present a cheering embodiment of non-conforming feeling—a faithful representation of independent worth.

They come. They have met;—and the fondest hopes of its Christian-minded projectors are more than realised. Oh, that the enlightening, purifying, and sanctifying influence of the Divine Spirit may pervade the deliberations of this great assembly! "Business begins." Who is that so cordially and affectionately called to the chair? He looks the Christian philanthropist. Time has not whitened his forelocks; but the glow of intelligence but stands out the more brightly. He speaks with ease and freedom. He has a high subject, and there is soul

in all he says. Who is he? That is John Burnett, of Camberwell. Wise choice! Born into a happy circle of humble life, he grew a stalwart youth, and anon became a giant in his fatherland. Full thirty summers' suns have shone over his head since he slew his first Goliath in the fair city of St Johnstone. He is among the Philistines again; and well does he know how to wield the sling and the stone.

Dr Cox rises. He reads an able defence of the Conference. It is a truthful document. It goes to the root of the matter. "The object of the Conference will be to operate on the conscience and the heart of the dissenting community," says the paper. That is the first object. There is room for it. The dissenting community have yet much to learn, and much to unlearn, before they can put forth a moral influence equal to the overthrow of the "beast" and the "scarlet lady."

The chairman rises: he speaks on behalf of a hearing for a brief space for a gentleman whose time is limited—of one whose devotion to the principles of civil and religious liberty was well known.

A thin, spare, gentlemanly-looking man rises on the chairman's left. He is received with enthusiastic applause. He looks thoughtfully on the vast assembly; then enunciates softly, distinctly, and in persuasive tones, language and sentiments at once honest, intelligent, and truthful. "There can be no security for religious or political liberty, while the connexion between the church and the state remains." Thus spoke William Sharman Crawford—the amiable, the upright, and independent member for Rochdale—and touched a chord which, strung, from heart to heart, vibrates through eternity. He heartily approves the conference, and both in and out of parliament promises to work out its views.

In parliament! Must the battle be fought there too? It must—it will. Christian churches, as such, will throw light on the unhallowed connexion of church and state on religious grounds. They will enlighten; and so far the darkness will dispel of itself. But, as citizens of the state, the battle must be fought on political grounds. The state tied the knot, and the state must unloose it. Such men as the member for Rochdale are well fitted to unravel its Gordian meshes.

Dr Cox proceeds, and closes in a climax of unanimously enthusiastic feeling. A new element calls forth more such feeling: the doctor renounces the office of distributor of the *regium donum*. That is right. "He who touches the *regium donum* as much insults the principle of dissent, as he who withholds the Bible violates the principle of protestantism," said Dr Wardlaw's paper. By parity of reasoning, he who distributes it is unclean. If dissenters will violate their principles by accepting the "beggarly elements of this world" as a king's gift of other people's money, let them have it through the poisoned channels which best befit it to flow in, and not as pills gilded in the laboratory of true religion.

The paper is passed, and a resolution follows. It lays down a defensive and aggressive policy. It is negative and positive in its character. It tells the world what dissenters will do, and what they will not do. They will not recognise a state church, modified though it were within a hair's breadth of the truth; and they will no longer nibble at the branches of the deadly upas-tree, but strike deep at the root.

Dr Young, of Perth, has spoken—St Johnstone contributes well to this great work. He is termed the champion of voluntarism in Scotland—though others, whose silvery hairs now wave before me, will by and by show that they divide the palm with the worthy doctor.

He speaks with a strong Scottish accent. It grates rather on the English ear, and the ponderousness of the subject makes him at first heavy. But he becomes elastic, and every heart bends with his own. Fresh from the field of victory, he buckles on his armour for the fight; and if he live not to scale the fortress on this side the Tweed, he now points the way to triumph.

Others follow: Norwich sends a Brock, and Kettering a Robinson; both are men of God, and will "shun not to declare his whole counsel." They evidently know not that "fear of man" which "brings a snare."

What means that bustling on the left side of the room? What calls forth that cheer, as a small electrical-looking personage pushes gently forward? He takes the platform and is seated; his looks are full of meaning; that finely extended and broad, rather than lofty, forehead; those piercing eyes, and lively, though somewhat careworn contour of face, bespeak intellectual greatness. He nods, and the assemblage cheer again. "I have traveled in many countries—I have seen people of every colour and clime—I have looked at and studied the working of state churches at home and abroad, and I am firmly persuaded, that the separation of the church from the state would be for the advantage of both." Thus spoke Dr Bowring, the respected member for Bolton. It is another "great fact." The business committee report. Motions are to go through it to the Conference. This calls forth a slight demurrer. As a deliberative body, the Conference is jealous of its authority, as the "legitimate source of power." It is wisely so. An explanation puts all straight, and then

The Rev. J. CARLILE reads an elaborate paper from Dr Wardlaw. The silver tones of the amiable doctor's voice are not here, but the mind of the great and good man is with us. He has thrown his whole weight into the right scale, and the beam trembles.

Breathless silence prevails—Dr Wardlaw is not here—but Homerton has sent its Dr Pye Smith, and he who sees the one, almost sees the other. "My judgment and my heart are with you," emphatically observes the amiable and learned doctor: no more

compliment to the judgment which planned, the courage that advocated, and the feeling that responded to the call of the conference. Pleasing commentary, too, on the strange rumour which obtained currency in gossiping circles, that he had withdrawn from the movement. He is redolent of the aggressive policy. The "committee" at Homerton should know this fact.

Thus closed the first diet—this is the "beginning of the end."

THE EVENING SEDERUNT.

Some fourteen or fifteen years ago, the community in one of the most obscure villages of the far north were thrown into a state of consternation and alarm, by a rumour that a discovery had been made in the south of a something that would tend to the overthrow of the established church. Nobody could tell what this something was; but everybody knew that it was called the *voluntary principle*, and that the discovery had been made by a clergyman previously little known or heard of, the Rev. A. Marshall of Kirkintilloch. By and by this voluntary principle became a notorious principle, and Andrew Marshall, like Andrew Melville, became a notorious man. A new era was thus created in the religious world; and Andrew Marshall has lived to see the day when his discovery, so to speak, has, like Luther's Bible found among the musty records of the convent at Erfurt, dealt a blow at the popery of protestantism which makes it reel and stagger as then did the popery of Rome. Andrew Marshall is here to-night. He presides over six hundred stern adherents of the "voluntary principle," and tells forth his own experience in language glowingly depictive of the burning emotions of a benevolent heart. "You have bent the bow; see that ye spring your arrows," emphatically said this good man; and then showed how they might reach the "hearts of the enemies of the King's son." He lives in the affections of this enthusiastic assembly.

The Rev. Chas. Stovel is announced. He goes quietly to work. He speaks to resolutions on Dr Wardlaw's letter. He grows warm—rises with his subject, and declaims—then counsels united and determined effort, till the "stubborn oak falls and lies prostrate as a blasted and withered thing." He touches a tender part—he feels that he has been wounded in the house of his friends. "I can bear the scorn, the suspicion, and the lurking motive of an enemy, because I expect nothing else; but when engaged in the same cause with a brother or a friend, and find that I am not trusted by him, I feel that to be amongst the most painful things to be felt among men." But he affectionately adds, "This will not last long." Be it so. Good men have their faults and foibles; and if some have kept aloof from this movement, while others, from whom better things were to be expected, have poured upon it the language of contempt, treat them kindly, for kindness is the key that unlocks the best feelings of the human heart. Good John Newton used to say—"If ever I get to heaven, I shall find some there whom I did not expect to see; and miss others whom I expected to find." And so it is here to-day. We find some we scarcely expected to see in the front ranks; and we miss others whose love of freedom we never questioned and whose moral courage few imagined would fail.

Dr M'Farlane, of Glasgow, rises. He is another champion of the voluntary principle, but he reserves himself for a future occasion.

Professor M'Michael speaks—the theme is again Scotland; that is a fruitful and instructive theme.

Mr Joseph Sturge rises. He is warmly received. "I have never been able to distinguish between my political and religious duties. I believe the distinction is one drawn by priestcraft." Thus spoke this distinguished philanthropist; and the sentiments he uttered found a response in every heart. He objects to certain phraseology in the resolution, which complains of a state church "as rendering it impossible to draw the line of demarcation between things secular and things sacred." The phraseology is modified, and made more explicit. Apropos of these resolutions—they are too long and wordy. Simplicity is the essence of truth. "Brevity is the soul of wit." Brevity and simplicity, if characteristic of these resolutions, would leave the enemy fewer picking holes.

Mr MIALl is announced: the spontaneous effusion of grateful feeling which greets his rising must be refreshing after his long toil to gather up and concentrate the fragmentary elements of that indignant public opinion, superinduced by Sir James Graham's Factory Education bill. Of his paper—this is not the time, nor this the place to praise it. The Conference adjourns.

Thus ends the first day's work. Two things are especially cheering; the deep-toned earnestness of the assembly, and the firm determination to look great principles fully in the face.

SELECTIONS FROM THE PRESS.

(From the *Glasgow Saturday Post*.)

The pressure of other topics has prevented us from noticing lately the preparations for the Anti-state-church Convention, which takes place at London on the 30th inst. Representatives have been appointed to that assembly by all the principal towns in the kingdom, or from some of the dissenting congregations in them. Even in many villages, meetings of dissenters have been held, and men appointed to attend. Amongst other appointments, we are highly gratified with that of Dr Marshall, of Kirkintilloch, as one of the representatives from Glasgow. Our voluntary fellow-citizens could not possibly have made a more fitting choice than this. Dr Marshall is a father and chief apostle in the true voluntary cause, who, in addition to his zeal for the emancipa-

tion of his countrymen from religious bondage, is equally sound in his views, and desirous of emancipating them from civil bondage. Dr Marshall was amongst the first boldly to raise the standard for a claim of unconditional religious freedom in Scotland, and for the disruption of every bond and tie that exists between religion and the state. Now, therefore, when the agitation of the question is to be prominently urged in the British metropolis, a person so qualified is the most fit individual that could be selected for breaking up new ground, carrying the war into a more vital part of the enemy's ranks, and rousing to a just sense of their position, and the principles they should maintain, the slothful, unthinking millions, who compose the dissenters of England.

(From the *Suffolk Chronicle*.)

There has been a quietude about this movement that is remarkable—no frothy declamation, but an earnest and deep-seated intention to set about the work in a business-like manner. The Conference meets expressly with a view to commence a serious movement for the enlightening the public mind on the evils of church establishments, and for the adoption of such earnest and systematic measures as may lead to their speedy and entire abolition. Of course the proceedings are looked forward to with great interest. It is another element thrown into the bubbling cauldron to work the death charm of that hydra-headed monster yclept "Monopoly."

(From the *Berwick Advertiser*.)

As little do we doubt that many amongst the dissenting party will still not join the movement, but do what they can to retard it. It matters not. The object is one of the most important that men ever set themselves to accomplish. It never will be effected save by those taking the lead who have the most implicit reliance on the force of truth, and the most settled determination to pursue it. By such alone must the onset be led, and the fight sustained to the close. It is infinitely better that "the faint and the feeble" should not join in the warfare, as they would only prove encumbrances to the resolute, earnest men by whom it must be carried on. The numbers of those who take the field will thus be diminished, but so much the greater will be their strength.

It is not by mincing matters; it is not by attacking symptoms that any radically vicious system is to be overthrown. Its very constitution must be assailed, and shown to be incurably bad. Never until this conviction has become thoroughly rooted in the minds of men prepared to act upon it, can a vigorous or effective attack be made on establishments supported by all the aristocratic power of the country.

LIST OF DELEGATES TO THE ANTI-STATE CHURCH CONFERENCE.

Acworth, Rev. J., Bradford
Adamson, Mr J., Auchtermuchty
Adey, Rev. E., Leighton
Airey, Mr G., Willow-walk, London
Albright, Mr A., Birmingham
Allan, Mr W., London
Allen, Rev. J., Leicester
Allwright, Mr T., Deptford
Anderson, Mr G., Stoke Newington
Anderson, Mr R., Stone, Stratford
Anderson, Mr A., Whitechurch, Hants
Angus, Rev. H., Aberdeen
Angus, Mr H., Newcastle-on-Tyne
Anthony, Mr D., Homerton College
Applegate, Rev. T., Andover
Arthur, Mr C., Dunfermline
Ashby, Rev. J., Thetford
Ashton, Mr T., Darwen
Attfield, Mr G., London
Austin, Mr J., Carnarvon
Aveling, Rev. T., Kingsland
Axford, Mr W., Deptford
Backhouse, Rev. B., Rotherborough
Bailey, Mr, Leicester
Bain, Mr W., Nottingham
Baines, Mr W., Leicester
Baker, Mr B., Little Hadham
Baker, Mr J., Andover
Bane, Rev. J., Aylsham
Barber, Mr, Harpurhey
Barclay, Mr John, Hedden Bridge
Barclay, Mr J., Birmingham
Barlow, Mr, Birmingham
Barltrop, Mr M., Stansted
Barnes, Mr W., London
Barnett, Rev. J., Blaby
Barnett, Mr R., London
Barrett, Mr, Caxton
Barrett, Mr R., Lynn
Barry, Mr T., Brill
Barton, Mr J., Scarborough
Bartram, Mr R., Northampton
Bates, Rev. Mr, Newtownards
Bates, Rev. J., Ballina and Conlig
Bates, Mr J., Leeds
Bateson, Mr H., Bury
Baylis, Mr J., Tottenham
Bean, Rev. W., Banbury
Bayne, Rev. R., Stradbroke
Bella, Mr J., Nottingham
Bedells, Mr C., Whitehaven
Bedford, Rev. W., Rotherborough
Bennett, Mr C., Muckworthy
Bennett, Mr W., Dalketh
Bennett, Mr T., Accrington
Bennett, Mr T. W., Burslem
Bisley, Mr R., Cupar Fife
Biveridge, Mr E., Dunfermline
Bisley, Mr E., Cirencester
Bidgood, Mr H., London
Bignold, Mr T., Norwich
Bigwood, Rev. J., Exeter
Billingham, Mr J., Islington
Bingley, Rev. C., Middlebro'-on-Tees
Bland, Mr W. J., Surrey Ch., London
Bonnet, Mr, Glasgow
Bonner, Rev. W. H., Bilston
Bontems, Mr, Brentford
Bourne, Mr W., Winchester
Bowen, Rev. S., Macclesfield
Bowring, Dr M. P., Bolton, and Tower Hamlets, London
Bowser, Mr W., Downton
Bowser, Mr A., Wincanton
Box, Mr T., Swaffham
Boyce, Mr J., Brompton
Boyton, Mr T., Grays
Braden, Mr A. S., Islington-green
Brake, Rev. C., London

Briacoe, Rev. J. P., Boston
 Broad, Mr. T., Burnley
 Bröck, Rev. W., Jamaica and Norwich
 Brook, Mr. J., Salendrin Nook
 Brown, Rev. J., Dalketh
 Brown, Rev. J. T., Northampton
 Brown, Mr. H., Thetford
 Brown, Mr. J., Ingham
 Browne, Mr. J., North Walsham
 Browning, Mr. J., Winchester
 Bubier, Rev. G. B., Orsett
 Bumpus, Rev. T., Sulgrave
 Burchell, Rev. W. F., Rochdale
 Burchett, Rev. A., Long Buckby and Tutbury
 Burns, Rev. J., London and Derbyshire Conference
 Barnett, Rev. J., Camberwell
 Burt, Rev. J. B., Beaulieu
 Burton, Mr. W. S., Edinburgh
 Bury, Mr. P., Salford
 Bassell, Rev. J., Modbury
 Butler, Mr. Brentwood
 Butfield, Mr. W., Hemel Hempstead
 Byles, Mr. H. B., Bradford
 Cairns, Mr. W., Glasgow
 Campbell, Rev. Dr. London and Devonport
 Campbell, Rev. H. H., Brentford
 Campbell, Mr. W., Londonderry and Manchester
 Cane, Rev. J. C., Bognor
 Cane, Mr. Bognor
 Carey, Rev. E., Blaby and Stockport
 Carlie, Rev. J., Aberdeen, Hackney, Manchester, Western
 College, and Waterford
 Carlie, Mr. W., Camberwell
 Carter, Mr. J. T., Leeds and Yorkshire (W.R.) Baptist Association
 Cater, Rev. P., Canterbury
 Challis, Mr. W., Writtle
 Chaplin, Mr. J., Colchester
 Chapman, Rev. J., Grays
 Chappell, Rev. W., Maidstone
 Chew, Mr. London
 Childs, Mr. J., Wortwell
 Christopherson, Mr. Brompton
 Clapp, Rev. J., Appledore and North Devon Association
 Clapp, Mr. W., Appledore
 Clarke, Mr. E., Leytonstone and Warminster
 Clark, Mr. Highgate
 Cliff, Mr. J., Bramley
 Clowes, Rev. F., Bradford
 Colman, Mr. Ald., Norwich
 Colman, Mr. J., jun., Norwich
 Colman, Mr. Jos., Bristol
 Coleman, Mr. Leicester
 Collings, Rev. W., Kingston
 Conder, Mr. J., Chesham and Greenock
 Cooke, Mr. B., Bermondsey
 Cook, Rev. H., Dundee
 Cook, Mr. T., Lynn
 Cooper, Rev. J., Leighton Buzzard
 Cooper, Mr. J., East Dereham
 Cooper, Mr. J., Cambridge
 Copeman, Mr. Norwich
 Copland, Mr. J., Chelmsford
 Cousens, Mr. Buckingham
 Cowell, Mr. J., Peckham
 Cox, Rev. Dr. Baptist Union, Galashiels, Hackney, and
 St. Helier's
 Cox, Mr. G., Bath
 Crane, Mr. J., Finchley
 Crawford, Mr. W. S., M.P., London
 Crellin, Mr. P., Ringwood
 Cropp, Mr. J., Manchester
 Cross, Rev. W. J., Thornbury
 Crowe, Rev. W., Worcestershire Baptist Association
 Cubitt, Mr. W., London
 Cullen, Rev. G. D., Congregational Union of Scotland and
 Glasgow
 Curwen, Rev. J. J., Plaistow
 Cuthbertson, Mr. T., Sunderland
 Cutting, Mr. J., Witheridge
 Danford, Mr. J., London
 Darling, Mr. H., Paisley
 Davids, Rev. T. W., Colchester
 Davis, Rev. J. C. Coxley, Wells, Devonport, and Glastonbury
 Davies, Rev. J. J., Tottenham
 Davies, Rev. S., London
 Davies, Rev. S., Stockport
 Davies, Rev. D., Swansea
 Davies, Mr. E., Aberhosan and Dinas
 Davies, Rev. D., Southwark
 Davis, Rev. E., Lewes
 Davis, Rev. Eliel, St. Ives
 Davis, Rev. J., Arnaby
 Davis, Rev. J., Sheffield
 Davis, Rev. J. E., Ledbury
 Davis, Rev. T., Bromsgrove
 Davis, Mr. P., Reading
 Davis, Mr. J. H., Southampton
 Davis, Mr. S., Bromsgrove
 Davis, Rev. S. J., Muckworthy and Edinburgh
 Dawson, Rev. G., Rickmansworth
 Dawson, Rev. T., Bacup and Goodshaw
 Day, Rev. T., Matfield-green, near Tunbridge
 Derby, Mr. P., Northampton
 Dexter, Mr. J. C., Bethnal-green
 Dick, Mr. T., London
 Dickinson, Rev. J. (2 places), Glasgow
 Dimmock, Mr. E. B., Bilston
 Dixon, Mr. B., Potterneton
 Dixon, Mr. J., Stebbing
 Dixon, Mr. Felsted
 Dixon, Mr. R. W., Witham
 Dobney, Rev. H. H., Maidstone
 Dobson, Mr. J., Edinburgh
 Doggett, Mr. F., New Basford
 Doulton, Mr. J., Lambeth
 Dovey, Rev. J. E., Bermondsey
 Dovey, Rev. W., Boarhunt
 Downman, Mr. G., Southampton
 Downson, Rev. H., Bradford
 Dosey, Rev. J., Marsh Gibbon
 Draper, Mr. J. S., Alderton
 Drew, Mr. J., Fraserburgh
 Drysdale, Mr. W., Glasgow
 Drysdale, Mr. W., Alva
 Dukes, Rev. C., Kingsland
 Dunkley, Mr. Haslingdon
 Duncombe, Rev. F., Stoney Stratford
 Dunlop, Mr. J., Edinburgh
 Dunn, Mr. J., Nottingham
 Duthoit, Mr. Islington
 East, Mr. G., London
 East, Mr. J., Coventry
 Eccles, Mr. T., Blackburn
 Eckett, Rev. R., Birmingham, Sunderland, Paisley, and
 Manchester
 Edridge, Mr. J., Bath
 Edwards, Rev. J., Brighton
 Edwards, Rev. J., Calverton and Nottingham
 Edwards, Mr. D., Swansea
 Elford, Mr. A., Fraserburgh
 England, Rev. S. S., Royston
 Epps, Dr. London
 Evans, Rev. B., Scarborough
 Evans, Rev. E., Pontypool
 Evans, Mr. A. E., Llanrhaidr and other places in Montgo-
 meryshire
 Evans, Mr. G., Dolgelly
 Evans, Mr. R., Burnley
 Evans, Mr. W., Liverpool
 Evans, Mr. T. F., Ottery St Mary
 Evans, Mr. S., Ottery St Mary

Everest, Mr. H., Chatham
 Ewing, Rev. A., Halifax
 Ferguson, Rev. R., Stratford
 Fielding, T., Esq., Castle Donnington
 Finch, Rev. J. C., Middleton
 Fishbourne, Mr. G. W., Long Parish, Hants
 Fininley, Mr. H., Worcester
 Fisk, Mr. W., St. Alban's
 Fletcher, Rev. A., London
 Fletcher, Rev. J., Hanley
 Flower, Mr. H., Loughborough
 Forsaith, Rev. R. E., Royston
 Forster, Rev. E. L., Stoney Stratford
 Forster, Rev. W., Highgate
 Fox, Rev. J., Leeds
 Frazer, Rev. A., Blackburn
 Frazer, Rev. A., Colchester
 Frazer, Rev. W., Lambeth
 Frearson, Mr. H., Nottingham
 Frearson, Mr. J., Calverton
 Freeman, Mr. Bow
 Fry, Mr. T. H., Wycliffe Chapel, London
 Fuller, Rev. A. G., Blockley
 Fyfe, Rev. James, Bolton
 Gadsby, Mr. J., Manchester
 Garvey, Rev. Mr. Kentish-town
 Gates, Rev. J. W., Aylesbury
 Gawthorn, Rev. J., Derby
 Gre, Mr. R., Macclesfield
 George, Mr. W., Shipley
 Giles, Rev. J. E. (Bapt. Ch. and Public Meeting of S. S.
 Union), Leeds
 Gillfillan, Mr. W., London
 Glanville, Rev. J., Stepney
 Glover, Mr. W. H., Leeds
 Goadby, Rev. J., Leicester
 Gordon, Rev. A., Derby
 Gordon, Rev. A., Londonderry
 Goss, Rev. W., Yarmouth
 Gover, Mr. J., Southwark and Leeds
 Gough, Rev. T., Clipstone
 Gould, Rev. D., Dunstable
 Gould, Rev. G., South of Ireland Baptist Association
 Gower, Mr. W., Leeds
 Graffey, Mr. S., London
 Granger, Rev. H. G., Waddeston
 Gray, Rev. J., Chelmsford
 Gray, Mr. John, Hexham
 Grayner, Mr. J. W., Stratford
 Green, Rev. S., Leeds
 Green, Mr. J., Sotton-in-Craven
 Greene, Rev. J., Leicester
 Gregory, Rev. W., Bristol
 Griffin, Rev. W. H., Chard
 Grundy, Mr. T., Greenock
 Gutteridge, Mr. Jos., Dunstable
 Hall, Mr. F., Lymington
 Hall, Mr. J. T., New Basford
 Hall, Mr. R., Mursley
 Halliday, Rev. E., Ratcliffe
 Hamilton, Mr. J., Glasgow
 Harbottle, Rev. J., Accrington
 Harcourt, Rev. J., Rickmansworth
 Harcourt, Rev. C. H., Oakingham
 Hardcastle, Rev. C., Cork and Waterford South Ireland Bap-
 tist Association
 Hardy, Mr. R., Worcester
 Hare, Mr. J. M., Hackney and Wakefield
 Harris, Mr. Buckingham
 Harris, Mr. S., Kingston
 Harsant, Rev. J., jun., Bassingbourn
 Hasler, Mr. J., Saltcoats and Dundee
 Hawkes, Mr. N., Swanwick
 Hayward, Rev. T., Woodbridge
 Hebron, Rev. J., Newcastle-on-Tyne
 Hesket, Mr. G., Manchester
 Heugh, Rev. Dr. Glasgow
 Hewitt, Mr. J., Hoxton
 Hickman, Rev. Mr. Leytonstone
 Hickman, Mr. B., Lymington
 Hickson, Mr. S., Chatham
 Higgs, Rev. S., Sudbury
 Higgs, Mr. W., Gloucester
 Hills, Mr. E. S., Newcastle-on-Tyne
 Hincks, Rev. T., London
 Hincks, Rev. W., London
 Hillyard, Mr. B., Bristol
 Hobson, Mr. G. C., Barton Mills
 Hobson, Rev. Jesse, Barton Mills and Mildenhall
 Hockin, Rev. J., Evesham
 Hodgkins, Rev. B., Bishop Stortford
 Hogg, Rev. A. G., Haddington and Auchtermuchty
 Holland, Rev. J. R., St. Ives
 Hollie, Mr. R., Edinburgh
 Holmes, Rev. H. F., Wendover
 Holt, Mr. R., Manchester
 Hooper, Mr. J., Ratcliffe
 Hopkins, Mr. Samuel, Bassingbourn
 Hopwood, Rev. J., Lutterworth
 Howard, Dr. Tenterden
 Howell, Mr. J., Brill
 Howlett, Mr. Greenock and Leeds
 Hudson, Mr. R. S., West Bromwich
 Hughes, Mr. E., Chelmsford
 Hunt, Mr. Chelsea
 Hull, Mr. J., Manchester
 Husk, Mr. C., Prescott
 Huxham, Mr. S., Totnes
 Huxtable, Mr. W., Di-s
 Illingworth, Mr. M., Bradford
 Ierson, Rev. H., Syston
 Irvine, Mr. St. D'Arcy, Wells
 Islip, Rev. F., Thetford
 Jackson, Mr. J., Nottingham
 Jacques, Rev. G., Auchtermuchty
 James, Mr. C. E., Homerton College
 James, Mr. H., Reading
 Jay, Mr. Leeds
 Jay, Mr. Witheridge
 Jefferson, Rev. J., Stoke Newington
 Jeffery, Mr. G., Northampton
 Jeffreys, Mr. London
 Jeffreys, Mr. G., Islington
 Jenkinson, Rev. J., Kettering
 Jenkyn, Rev. Dr. Bridgewater, Rhydyboel, and Swansea
 Jennings, Mr. Manchester
 Johnson, Mr. W., Chesterton
 Johnson, Mr. W., Thame
 Johnson, Rev. J., Edinburgh
 Johnston, Rev. Eliezer, Banbury
 Jones, Mr. C., St. Helier's, Jersey
 Jones, Rev. A., Chatham
 Jones, Rev. M., Leominster
 Jones, Mr. D., Llanantffraid and other places in Montgo-
 meryshire
 Jones, Rev. J., Syston
 Jones, Mr. J., Mestyn
 Jones, Mr. James, Syston
 Jull, Mr. W., Staplehurst
 Katters, Rev. Mr. Portobello
 Kay, Rev. John, Coggeshall
 Keen, Rev. C. T., Worstead
 Kennedy, Rev. J., Aberdeen
 Kent, Rev. B., Norwood
 Kent, Mr. Abingdon
 Kemp, Mr. F., sen., Belton
 Kettle, Mr. R., Glasgow
 Kidston, J. B., Glasgow
 Killingworth, Rev. M., Deanshanger
 King, Rev. A., Cork
 King, Mr. Kingsland
 Kingsley, Mr. S., Markyate-street

Kinsman, Mr. R., London
 Kirk, Mr. W., Galashiels
 Kitson, Mr. W., Fulwood
 Knighton, Mr. G. W., Sharnbrook
 Knighton, Mr. Stoney Stratford
 Lacey, Mr. R., Sutton and Ipswich
 Laidler, Rev. S., Harleston
 Lambert, Mr. S., Brentford
 Lampard, Mr. S., Chatham
 Lankester, Dr. Tiverton
 Larom, Rev. C., Sheffield
 Larwill, Rev. J., Bugbrooke
 Law, Rev. J. B., Writtle
 Ledford, Mr. W., Meopham
 Lee, Dr. Aylesbury
 Legg, Rev. W., East Berkshire Indian Association
 Lemaire, Rev. R. G., Walworth
 Lewis, Rev. J. P., Diss
 Liggins, Mr. J., Plaistow and Queenborough
 Logan, Mr. W. C., Cork
 Lowe, Mr. —, Carmarthen and Highgate
 Lowell, Mr. G., Highgate
 Lloyd, Mr. T., West Bromwich
 Lunthly, Mr. J. J., Ebbw Vale
 Ludford, Mr. W., Meopham
 Mabbs, Mr. R., Cupar Fife
 M'All, Mr. W., Manchester
 M'Farlane, Rev. Dr. Glasgow
 M'Kerrow, Rev. W., Manchester
 M'Michael, Rev. N., Dunfermline
 Malden, Rev. W., Chichester
 Marsh, Rev. D., Great Missenden
 Marshall, Mr. J., Abergavenny
 Marshall, Mr. G., Wroughton
 Marshall, Rev. Dr. A., Glasgow
 Massie, Rev. R., Prescott, Warrington, &c.
 Massie, Rev. J. W., Bury, Lancashire
 Mather, Rev. J., Middleton
 Mathews, Mr. R. G., Islington-green
 Matthews, Rev. T. W., Boston
 Miall, Rev. G. R., Ullesthorpe
 Miall, Rev. W., London
 Miall, Mr. E., London and Greenock
 Miall, Mr. C., Melrose
 Millard, Rev. J., Lymington
 Millard, Mr. J. H., Weymouth
 Millard, Mr. W., Boarhunt
 Mirams, Rev. J., Kennington
 Moore, Mr. G., Northampton
 Moore, Mr. J., London
 Moore, Mr. J., Stepney
 Moore, Mr. M., Newcastle-on-Tyne
 Moore, Rev. T., Shadwell
 Morgan, Rev. D., several places in Montgomeryshire
 Morgan, Rev. T. H., Birmingham
 Morris, Rev. R., Tutbury
 Morris, Mr. D., Colchester
 Morris, Mr. R., Bristol
 Morris, Rev. R. S., Hurton-on-Trent and Tutbury
 Mudie, Mr. Witheridge
 Mudie, Mr. G., Ullesthorpe
 Mullen, Mr. C., Paisley
 Mummery, Rev. J. V., Tunbridge
 Mummery, Mr. W. S., Little Hadham
 Murgatroyd, Mr. W., Bradford
 Murray, Mr. Wotton
 Mursell, Rev. J. P., Leicester
 Nash, Mr. W. H., Royston
 Neal, Mr. N., Sulgrave
 Nettleton, Mr. J., Chelsea
 New, Rev. J., Salisbury
 Newlyn, Rev. P., St. Giles Chalfont
 Newth, Rev. E., Bury
 Newth, Rev. S., Broseley
 Newth, Mr. G. E., Surrey Ch., London
 Nicholson, Mr. T., Coleford
 Norris, Mr. R., Bristol
 Norton, Mr., Lumb
 Offer, Mr. G., Sheffield
 Olive, Mr. J. C., Wendover
 Oliver, Mr. J., Lumb
 Oliver, Mr. J., Sunderland
 Orchard, Rev. G. H., Highgate
 Osborn, Mr. J., Dunstable
 Overbury, Rev. R. W., London
 Overbury, Mr. J., Worcester
 Overbury, Rev. F., Worcestershire Baptist Association
 Owen, Mr. J., Castle Donnington
 Packer, Mr. J., Walworth
 Palmer, Rev. W., Chatteris
 Parker, Mr. S., Norwich
 Parr, Mr. R., Loughborough
 Parry, Rev. T., St. Austell
 Parry, Rev. T., Hull
 Payne, Rev. W., Chesham
 Pearson, Rev. E., Birmingham
 Pellatt, Mr. A., Hunslet and Perth
 Penny, Rev. J., Coleford
 Penny, Mr. J., London
 Perry, Rev. Dr. Reading
 Perry, Mr. J. C., Birmingham
 Pearse, Mr. J., Tavistock
 Philip, Rev. D., Coventry
 Phillips, Rev. T., Earls Barton
 Phillips, Rev. J., Southwell
 Phillips, Mr. Brompton
 Philips, Rev. A. R., Coleford
 Physick, Mr. J., Tavistock
 Pidduck, Mr. H., Hanley
 Pierce, Rev. T., Liverpool
 Pinsent, Mr. S., Devonport and Modbury
 Piper, Mr. D. H., Leeds
 Pledge, Rev. D., Tenterden
 Poile, Rev. W. F., Derby
 Pond, Mr. J., Peckham
 Pope, Rev. W., Meopham
 Poplewell, Mr. Lewes
 Porter, Rev. S. T., Darwen
 Pottinger, Rev. T., Bradford, Yorkshire
 Pratt, Mr. Bishop Stortford
 Preston, Rev. J., London
 Price, Dr. Thomas, Wigan, Carmarthen, Abergavenny, and
 Edinburgh
 Price, Rev. D., Denbigh
 Price, Rev. James, Hemel Hempstead
 Priest, Mr. R., Harleston
 Pringle, Rev. J., Newcastle-on-Tyne
 Prior, Rev. J. H., Weare, Somerset
 Pritchard, Mr. J., Llangollen and Ceforbychan, &c.
 Pryce, Rev. E. S., Abingdon
 Pudney, Mr. F. J., Somerton
 Pulsford, Mr. E., Boston and Conistone
 Pugh, Mr. J. B., Tonbridge
 Pugh, Mr. D., Pontypool College
 Pumphrey, Mr. J., Birmingham
 Pywell, Mr. J., Hastings
 Quincey, M. W., London
 Radford, Mr. G. E., Devonport
 Read, Mr. J. S., W. Bapt. Association
 Redford, Rev. J., Stansted
 Redshaw, Mr. A., Newcastle-on-Tyne
 Rees, Rev. D., Isleham
 Rees, Rev. T., Reigate
 Rees, Rev. W., Liverpool
 Reeve, Rev. J., Aspatria
 Richard, Rev. H., London
 Richardson, Rev. J. W., London
 Richardson, Mr. Jas., Scarborough
 Richardson, Mr. J., Leeds
 Richards, Rev. J., Stourbridge
 Riddle, Mr. J., Kensington
 Ridley, Mr. W., Stebbing

Ridley, Mr. Bow
 Riddle, Mr. T. D., Felsted
 Ritchie, Rev. Dr. Edinburgh and Alnwick
 Ritchie, Mr. J. E., Wrentham and Dorking
 Roberts, Rev. S., Newton and several places in Montgomery-shire
 Roberts, Mr. T., Stratford
 Roberts, Mr. T., Edinburgh
 Roberts, Rev. J., Chesterton
 Robertson, Rev. J., Edinburgh
 Robinson, Mr. C. B., Leicester
 Robinson, Rev. W., Kettering
 Robinson, Rev. R., Witham
 Roe, Rev. C., Birmingham
 Rogers, Mr. Ishmael, Kingalund
 Rogers, Rev. J., Lowestoft
 Rogers, Mr. John, Boscastle
 Rootham, Rev. J., Towcester
 Ross, Rev. J., Woodbridge
 Rose, Rev. G., Bermondsey
 Rothery, Rev. J., Hoxton
 Rumsey, Rev. R., Manchester
 Rutt, Mr. G., Northowram
 R. lands, Mr. P. Prescott, Warrington, and Newton
 Sanderson, Mr. R. B., jun., Newcastle-on-Tyne
 Sanderson, Mr. R. B., Coldstream
 Sandall, Mr. R., Aylham
 Sargood, Mr. F. J., Hounslow
 Scoble, Mr. J., Western College, Exeter
 Scott, Rev. P. Shipley
 Scott, Rev. T., Norwich
 Shardlaw, Mr. James, Edinburgh
 Shearman, Mr. Bocking
 Shephard, Mr. H., Peterhead
 Shipperson, Mr. M., Ipswich
 Shobotham, Rev. D. K., Dundee
 Shrewsbury, Mr. R. H., Chatham
 Sibree, Rev. J., Coventry
 Silly, Rev. G., Brixham
 Simmons, Mr. W. R., Leighton
 Simmons, Mr. George, London
 Simmons, Rev. W., Barton Mills and Mildenhall
 Slater, Mr. J. A., Holmes Chapel
 Smedmore, Rev. J., Leicester
 Smith, Rev. Dr. J. P., London (2 places)
 Smith, Rev. Thomas, Hebden Bridge
 Smith, Rev. W., Bannockburn
 Smith, Mr. J., London
 Smith, Mr. A., Cong. Union of Scotland
 Smith, Mr. J., Woodbridge
 Smith, Mr. S., Coventry
 Smith, Mr. J., Fordingbridge
 Somerville, Mr. W., jun., Edinburgh
 Soul, Mr. Leeds
 Spence, Mr. J., Kettering
 Stainon, Rev. R., Melbourne
 Stalker, Rev. A. M., Blockley
 Stallybrass, Rev. T. E., Chatteris
 Stamper, Rev. T. G., E. Berks. Ind. Association
 Stanger, Mr. J., Maidstone
 Starling, Mr. Conistone and Thornbury
 Statham, Rev. Mr. Reading
 Steel, Rev. W., Falkirk
 Stephen, Rev. D. R., Newport
 Stephens, Rev. J. M., Bath
 Stevens, Rev. George, Totton
 Stevenson, Rev. J., Southwark and Derbyshire Conf. of Bapt. Min.
 Stevenson, Mr. G., Derby
 Stevenson, Rev. T., Leicester
 Stevenson, Mr. G., Leicester
 Stewart, Rev. A., Barnet
 Stock, Rev. J., Chatham
 Stork, Mr. Downton
 Stovel, Rev. C., Baptist Union, London and Lewes
 Strutt, Mr. Leeds
 Sturge, Mr. J., Birmingham
 Stuart, Mr. S., Tiverton
 Swaine, Mr. London
 Swinestrud, Mr. W., Shadwell
 Symons, Rev. W., Mursley
 Tabor, Mr. C., Bocking
 Tarring, Mr. J., Aberdeen
 Taylor, Rev. H., Woodbridge
 Temple, Mr. W., London
 Templeton, Mr. London
 Thomas, Rev. D. E. Berks. Ind. Asso.
 Thomas, Mr. E., Newport
 Thomas, Rev. R., Liverpool
 Thomas, Rev. T., Pontypool and College
 Thompson, Mr. G., Worcester
 Thompson, Mr. J., Holmes Chapel
 Thompson, Mr. O., Sunderland
 Thomson, Rev. R., Perth
 Thomson, Rev. A., Glasgow
 Thomson, Rev. Dr. A., Coldstream
 Thomson, Rev. C., Manchester
 Thomson, Rev. P., Chatham
 Thorne, Rev. W., Winchester
 Thorne, Mr. J., Shebbear and Somerton
 Tillet, Mr. J. H., Norwich
 Tilly, Rev. T., Forton
 Tilly, Mr. A., Forton
 Tipton, Mr. A. J., Leeds
 Titchmarsh, Mr. T., Royston
 Todd, Rev. S., Bacup
 Tofield, Mr. J., Houghton Regis
 Toller, Rev. H., Market Harborough
 Toone, Mr. J., Salisbury
 Trapp, Mr. I. H., Ardrossan
 Travel, Mr. Deanshanger
 Trelawney, Mr. J. S., M.P., Tavistock
 Trend, Rev. H., Bridgewater
 Tre-trail, Rev. F., Cork
 Tunley, Rev. R., Northampton
 Tunncliffe, Rev. J., Leeds
 Tyler, Rev. W., Evesham
 Tydeman, Rev. H. W., Chelmsford
 Underwood, Rev. W., Wicks north, Derbyshire Com. 's, and Paddington
 Unwin, Mr. —, Coxton
 Unwin, Mr. —, Addlestone
 Unwin, Mr. S., Coggeshall
 Upton, Rev. W., St Alban's
 Vines, Mr. J., Keysoe, Beds
 Vines, Rev. J., Bethnal-green
 Volter, Rev. J., Salford
 Waite, Rev. J. J., Bristol
 Wake, Rev. J. W., Markyate-street
 Walker, Mr. J., Halifax
 Wallis, Mr. E., Wetheridge
 Walton, Rev. N., Cowling-hill
 Warton, Mr. W. H., Finchley
 Wassell, Rev. D., Bath
 Waterman, Mr. Matfield-green
 Watson, Mr. J., Newcastle-upon-Tyne
 Watt, Mr. J. H., Irvine and Kilmarnock
 Watts, Rev. J., Lymington and S. W. Baptist Association
 Webb, Rev. J., Chelmsford, Sutton, and Ipswich
 Webb, Mr. J. M., Stockport
 Weir, Mr. J., Newcastle-on-Tyne
 Welsh, Rev. W., Falkirk
 Wheldon, Mr. J., Scarborough
 Wherry, Rev. J., Briston
 Whitby, Rev. J., Debenham and Ipswich
 White, Rev. E., Bewdley
 White, Rev. Mr. Gloucester
 White, Mr. Nottingham
 White, Mr. W. E., Bewdley
 White, Mr. J., Northowram
 Whitewood, Rev. S., Halifax
 Whitlock, Rev. H., Belton

Wiffen, Rev. W. H., Thame
 Wigg, Rev. S., Leicester
 Wigner, Rev. J. T., Lynn
 Wilkin, Mr. S., Coasey
 Williams, Rev. E., Mostyn
 Williams, Rev. I. Thos., Sharnbrook
 Williams, Rev. P., Hunslet and Pembroke Dock
 Williams, Mr. J. C., Fordingbridge
 Williams, Mr. W., London
 Willa, Rev. F., Lymington
 Wilson, Rev. A., Sunderland
 Wilson, Mr. J. H., Birmingham
 Wilson, Mr. T. B., London
 Winfield, Mr. J. W., Rhydyboai
 Winks, Mr. J. F., Leicester
 Wood, Mr. Norwood
 Wood, Rev. W., London
 Woodward, Rev. J., Great Ilford
 Woodward, Rev. H. B., Wortwell
 Woodward, Rev. B., Ipswich
 Woodward, Rev. B., Wycliffe Chapel, London
 Worley, Rev. W. C., Addlestone
 Wycherley, Rev. T. E., Tring
 Yonge, Rev. W. C., Brentford
 Young, Rev. B. C., Thrapston
 Young, Rev. Dr. Perth
 Young, Mr. E., London

CLERICAL RAPACITY.—The parish of Sedgley, during the past week, has been disturbed by unprecedented proceedings. The Rev. William Lewis, vicar of the parish, whose income is not worth less than £400 per annum, has determined to enforce the payment of Easter offerings by the dissenters of the place: which has been conscientiously refused; and the application has been disputed, as a claim not uniformly insisted on by his predecessors. In consequence of the resistance of a person named William Smith, from the most conscientious scruples, of the vicar's paltry claim of 1s., a distress warrant was issued against him for the amount; and, instead of its being executed, as it ought to have been, by one officer, the seizure was made by not less than three constables, for the obvious and abominable purpose of increasing the expense and extracting from that firm individual's pocket a greater amount than the proper circumstances of this harsh case required. The goods taken on that occasion were of the value of £2. Another seizure was made for 10d., about the same time, and for the same purpose, of the bed of a poor man named Josiah Nock. This individual had been out of employment for some time, and was unable, if he had had the motive, to discharge the paltry and curious imposition. The bed cost the poor man £4, and it may now be computed to be of the same value to him.—*Correspondent.*

FREE BIBLE SOCIETY.—On the 9th inst a meeting of various denominations of Christians was held in the United Secession church, Alnwick, for promoting the circulation of the scriptures. The meeting, which was densely crowded and highly respectable, was presided over by the Rev. Mr. Hibbert. The Rev. A. Thomson, D.D., of Coldstream, delivered an able address, in which he powerfully exposed the evils of bible monopoly, gave an interesting history of the efforts by which this monopoly has been broken up in Scotland, and showed the many important blessings which had resulted from this triumph of freedom. The reverend doctor was loudly cheered by the audience in the course of his address. A series of resolutions was then moved by the Rev. J. Collyer, the Rev. D. Donaldson, and Mr. M. Pater-son, recommending to each congregation and sabbath school in the town the formation of a Bible Society on the plan of the North of England Free Bible Society, lately instituted at Newcastle—expressing high approbation of the plans and operations of the Scottish Board for Bible Circulation, regarding it as well worthy of support from the religious public, and recommending in particular the plan of augmenting its capital by loans of £5 shares, to bear interest at five per cent., and the principal to be repaid, if in bibles, at any time, and if in cash, after six months' notice. A committee was appointed for carrying these resolutions into effect, consisting of the minister and two elders or stewards of each congregation. Mr. George Tate said that the reverend doctor—the champion of Bible freedom—had displayed great energy and perseverance in his struggle with the supporters of the worst of all monopolies. The result of his noble efforts had been most valuable, in giving to the oracles of divine truth "free course," and in bringing them within the reach of the poorest; and, considering him entitled to rank among the distinguished benefactors of humanity, he begged to move that the thanks of the meeting be presented to Dr. Thomson for the great services he has rendered to the world in promoting the free circulation of the word of God, and for the able and eloquent address he had delivered. The whole of the large audience expressed their enthusiastic concurrence in this resolution by standing up. A deep interest has been excited by this meeting in the cause of Bible circulation, and it may be hoped that "the bread which has been cast on the waters may be found many days hence."—*Edinburgh Chronicle.*

DISSENTERS' CHAPELS BILL.—A public meeting to oppose this measure was held on Thursday last, at the Freemason's tavern, Great Queen street. The attendance was thin. John Remington Mills, Esq., occupied the chair, and among the principal speakers were—Mr. Blackburn, Mr. Prest, secretary of the Wesleyan committee of privilege, Professor Hoppus, Dr. Seward, Dr. Bennett, and Dr. Cooke, of Belfast. The room was, on several occasions, a scene of great disorder, in consequence of the bitter and illiberal attacks of the speakers on those whom they met to oppose, which was resented by many persons present. All the resolutions proposed being carried unanimously, and the usual vote of thanks being passed to the chairman, the proceedings terminated.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION—ITS PRESENT POSITION.—We are filled with wonder and regret on learning that, up to this moment, there are no symptoms of any decision on the part of the committee of

the Sunday-school Union, upon the long agitated question of the publication and sale, at their depository, of that anti-scriptural formulary, the church catechism. The committee complain, that their difficulties are great, and that, if they would, it is not for them to decide the question. These difficulties are imaginary—are but a lion in the way; and as to their power, surely it is sufficient for the occasion. The four London auxiliaries compose the entire constituency of the Union; and to their voice the committee are, we conceive, bound to listen. Three of these have decided, by large majorities, against the sale of denominational catechisms; and the teachers of the fourth, we are informed, are about (if, indeed, it is not already done) to rescind the vote of their committee in favour of the sale, by adopting the same resolution that the East, South, and West auxiliaries have sent up to the parent committee. Thus, then, with at least three-fourths of their constituencies to direct them, they ought not to hesitate for one moment. If, however, they are in perplexity, there is the more reason why they should throw themselves upon the annual meeting, with a recommendation that that assembly should decide the matter. This, we have reason to fear, they will decline doing; and if our fears are well founded, they will run the risk of making one of the most harmonious meetings of the month an occasion for the display of divided and excited feeling.—*Patriot.*

THE CHAPLAINCY QUESTION.—THE KINGSBRIDGE UNION.—It will be seen, by the brief report of the proceedings of this union, that the guardians have determined not to be bishop-ridden, and that in this determination they have been supported by the rate-payers of the union. Our readers will remember that, in consequence of the bullying of the poor law commissioners, by Bishop Philpotts, the triumvirate issued a mandate to the Kingsbridge guardians to appoint a chaplain. As the mandate was issued shortly before the close of the official year, the guardians determined to postpone the consideration of the question till the new elections took place. The elections were made the test of the feeling of the rate-payers, and the result was, that the rate-payers expressed themselves by their returns most hostile to the appointment. We trust that the people will not lose sight of this question. If Bishop Philpotts' proposition be carried out, it will, in effect, add two millions sterling to the enormous amount of property which the church already possesses.—*Western Times.*

SYNOD OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ENGLAND.—The annual meeting of this body took place during the last week, at Berwick-on-Tweed. The court commenced its sittings on Tuesday, and closed on Friday. The most notable feature connected with its sittings was the passing of a resolution, repudiating all foreign authority and interference, and denying any subordination to any church or body in Scotland. A further series of resolutions were passed, wherein it was asserted that the principle of non-intrusion, or the free right of the Christian people to elect their own ministers, is a scriptural principle; that further, the principle of spiritual independence, or the freedom of the church from all civil control in spiritual matters, is a scriptural principle. The synod resolved at once to organise a theological seminary, to the presidency of which it was agreed to invite Dr. James Buchanan of Edinburgh, a man pre-eminent among his Scottish brethren for clearness, and accuracy, and extent of theological attainment. Committees were also appointed to organise plans for home and foreign missionary enterprise.

THE FREE CHURCH IN AMERICA.—Letters from America, received by the last mail, state that Dr. Cunningham intends leaving that country by the steam packet on the 1st of May. We understand that remittances of upwards of £5000, raised for the Free church by the American deputation, have been already made to this country.

The Complete Suffrage Movement.

Birmingham, April 29.

The Council of the National Complete Suffrage Union were chiefly engaged, at their meeting here to-day, with arrangements for the annual meeting, which is to be held at the public office on Monday next.

The sub-committee reported that an address had been forwarded to the electors of Horsham, urging them to support no candidate who refuses to vote for complete suffrage.

TOWER HAMLETS.—On Monday evening the yearly meeting of the northern division of the Tower Hamlets Complete Suffrage Association was held at the Tyssen Arms, Dalston. Mr. T. B. Wilson was unanimously called to the chair. The chairman, in a brief, clear, and energetic manner, showed the importance of the movement, and pointed to the portentous signs of the times as an encouragement to persevere; and concluded his remarks, which were well received, by calling on the secretary to read the report. The report was then read, and detailed the labours of the committee, in the purchase and distribution of tracts, and by public lectures, &c. Mr. Archer, in moving the first resolution, took a review of the labours of the committee; and, when contrasted with their circumscribed means, he thought they had done much; and, if evidence was wanting to prove that they had acted disinterestedly, this one circumstance was, he thought, sufficient to establish the fact—viz., that they had put their hands into their own pockets to liquidate the debts of the association. He cordially approved of the objects of the association, and concluded a speech, charac-

terised for sound sense and correct thinking, by moving—

"That this meeting cordially adopts the report now read; approves and acknowledges the services of the committee and officers of the Association during the past year; and respectfully requests the following gentlemen to hold office for the ensuing year, viz.:—Edward Miall, Esq., president. Dr Cox, Hackney; E. Clarke, Esq., Snarbrook; Frederick Clarke, Esq., Stoke Newington; Joseph Cooper, Esq., ditto; Francis Homan, Esq., ditto; George Offer, Esq., Hackney, vice-presidents. Minute secretary, Mr W. Barnes. Financial secretary, Mr J. A. Thomas. Committee—Messrs Wilson, Prior, Pococke, Harding, Liddell, sen., Liddell, jun., Rivett, Freeston, J. Rogers, E. Rogers, Bishop, Clay, Pincett, B. Dixon, C. Yetton, and J. Holland, with power to add to their number."

Mr Whincop briefly seconded the resolution, which, when put to the meeting, was passed unanimously. Mr Bishop then moved the second resolution:—

"That the papers now read be adopted as the rules and constitution of this Association, and that they be printed and circulated under the direction of the committee; and the meeting pledges itself individually to seek the attainment of its object by the means and in the spirit therein set forth; also that the following petition be adopted and presented to the House of Commons in support of Mr Wm Sharman Crawford's bill of rights; that Messrs Barnes and Wilson be a deputation to wait on the members for the Tower Hamlets, to request them to present and support the same; and, in the event of their refusing, the petition to be presented to the hon. member for Rochdale for presentation to the House."

Mr Holland briefly seconded the motion. Carried unanimously. Mr Wickham, in an able address, proposed the third resolution:—

"That this meeting refer, with much pleasure, to the recent decision of the court of Common Pleas, and the subsequent movement that has been adopted, with a view to increase the parliamentary register; but, while this meeting would urge upon the members of this association, in their individual capacity, the propriety of giving to this movement all the benefit of their influence and effort, they cannot but record their solemn conviction that any extension of the suffrage, alone and apart from the other points enumerated in the bill of rights, would, in many cases, prove a curse rather than a blessing, and fail to be what this Association has resolved to demand—a full, fair, and free representation of these realms."

Mr Pococke briefly seconded the resolution; and it was carried unanimously. Thanks were then given to the chairman, who acknowledged the same, and the meeting dissolved.

DUNDEE.—We have had two large and enthusiastic meetings in this town, under the auspices of the Complete Suffrage Association, to receive Mr Vincent, who delivered two lectures. He was welcomed on each occasion in the most hearty manner; and never was there more attention paid to a speaker than on these occasions. It was gratifying to see so large a body of the working classes present; and their order and decorum were well calculated to assist in allaying the fears of those who sometimes assert that it would be unsafe to entrust working men with votes. We were struck with the hearty responses that were given to all allusions to the moral and intellectual improvement of the people; while the assertion that political rights should only be won by peaceable and Christian means was most cordially received. Many chartists were present, who behaved in a highly creditable manner. At the conclusion of each lecture, votes of thanks were presented to Mr Vincent with loud cheers. Mr Duncan, the member for this town, most cordially supported Mr Crawford throughout the supply movement, which has given great satisfaction.

AMBROATH.—On Thursday and Friday evenings last Mr Henry Vincent delivered two lectures, in our town, on complete suffrage. The meetings were held in the Trades' hall, and were very crowded. There had been strong prejudices against the principles, mainly owing to the foolish conduct of a few of the O'Connorites, who have now dwindled into nothingness. These lectures have had a happy effect in removing this prejudice. Mr Vincent was warmly welcomed by the friends of liberty here; and his audiences evinced their approbation by the most patient attention and hearty applause. The cause will make steady progress.

THE PEOPLE'S COLLEGE.—A number of gentlemen who are favourable to a more extensive system of education for the working classes, are about to establish an institution in this town to promote that object. The land is already purchased, being part of the new inclosure on Derby road, and unsolicited donations to the amount of £1,100 have already been made. As soon as we can obtain further information, we shall have pleasure in laying it before our readers.—*Notts Review*.

THE COLLIERIES' STRIKE.—We regret to state that the differences between the pitmen and the coal-owners of this district have not yet been adjusted. The consequences of the disagreement are being alarmingly felt by all classes—the shipowners, shopkeepers, artisans, and sailors of the Tyne, the Wear, and the Tees, being one and all affected by the incubus which the "strike" has placed upon the trade of the north of England. Newcastle, Sunderland, and Stockton, it is obvious, are now placed in a very critical position. The time seems to have arrived in which the great problem is to be solved—whether the north of England shall maintain its superiority as a coal district or not? Scotland and Wales pant, with eager expectation, for a share in the spoils which they expect our pitmen are preparing for them. Every tide vessel is leaving our harbour in ballast, for the purpose of carrying the coal of distant collieries to the London and other markets. Once established there, these rivals will be difficult of removal. As we observed last week, it is easy to create a competitor, but how to get rid of him afterwards is the grand difficulty.—*Gateshead Observer*.

General News.

FOREIGN.

FRANCE.

The Paris papers mention a report that the French government proposed to purchase the sovereignty of the territories of Queen Pomare, with the exception of a single island to be left to her, with a civil list which would enable her to keep up a certain degree of dignity. Another report is that the British and French governments have negotiated a partition of Hayti between the two countries; Spain to cede her portion to England in satisfaction of pecuniary claims.

No renewal of the debate on the Otaheite question was expected before the 14th of May, by which time it was calculated further arrivals would take place with intelligence to the middle of February.

Private letters state, that "owing to whatever cause, the precautions for the preservation of the King were never more numerous nor more severely enforced than at the present moment."

The *Reforme* contains statements which show that the conspiracy detected in the 70th regiment of the line at Paris had numerous ramifications.

The Duchess of Kent and suite arrived at the Tuileries on Thursday afternoon, and was expected to make a long visit to their Majesties the King and Queen of the French.

The *Moniteur* of Thursday publishes an ordinance opening a credit in favour of the government of 527,241 francs for the payment of the interest on the Greek loan guaranteed by France and England, for the half-year ending the 1st March last.

SPAIN.

The *Times*' correspondent in Madrid writes as follows, with respect to the Carlist party, still by no means extinct in Spain:—

"An important step is about to be taken shortly with reference to the threatened Carlist movement in Biscay—no less than the restoration of the *fueros* to the Basque provinces! Whether 'to stop out' Carlism, or to meet it half-way, I will not pretend to say; all that I am sure of is, that the French and Basque smuggling interests are very ably represented at Madrid, and that their joint diplomacy would fully suffice to explain this retrograde movement, if it were not believed throughout Spain that the son of Don Carlos is at the head of a force in the Maestrazgo, and that a new Carlist party has appeared in arms near Mardonego in Galicia."

"A deputation from the Basque provinces has been here negotiating for their last privileges, and also for the honour of a visit from the Queen and her mother; and it appears that both favours are to be conceded together. At the head of this deputation is Don Pedro Egnara, who has been appointed fiscal of the Audiencia of Barcelona (a place both of honour and profit, and to which he has already been gazetted). He begs leave publicly to decline that appointment until the time when the Basque provinces shall receive the justice to which they are entitled, in the restoration of their *fueros*—a pretty sure indication that they are not far off."

General Prim has left Madrid on eight months' leave, having refused to take the command of the Morocco expedition. He comes to France and England, and it is said that the object in visiting us is to meet Espartero, and make up matters with him.

According to a letter from Gibraltar of the 10th inst., the Emperor of Morocco, on being informed of the hostile intentions of Spain, had proclaimed the "holy war" against infidels, and called out 40,000 horsemen, to whom he had assigned a rendezvous at a point situate within a short distance of the coast.

PORTUGAL.

The intelligence from Lisbon represents matters in that country as going on from bad to worse. Bomfirm is in possession of Almeida, with no prospect of his capture or surrender. One of his most active officers, the deputy José Esteveao, had left Almeida, with some officers, to take the command of guerilla parties, which appear to be springing up in several directions. The constitutional guarantees were again suspended, and also the liberty of the press, till the end of May; martial law was proclaimed, and the vile expedient of the wholesale transportation of state prisoners, without being brought before judge or jury, or even informed of the offence laid to their charge, has been twice put in practice.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

THE PRINCE DE JOINVILLE.—The *Armoricain* of Brest publishes the following anecdote, illustrative of the amiable character of the Prince de Joinville:—

"A young artisan was traveling from Brest to Morlaix, where his family resides, and having reached Landernaan, he determined to breakfast there, and for that purpose entered an hotel, where he sat down in the dining room at a table prepared for several persons. He soon perceived that the table was laid with unusual care, and his surprise was increased when he saw some travelers enter and take their seats at the table, as if it had been served exclusively for them. He then feared he had committed an indiscretion, and in some confusion rose from his seat; but one of the travelers having observed his sudden disappearance, followed him, and with exquisite politeness invited him to resume his seat, and partake his repast. The operative yielded to the invitation, and in a moment he was set at his ease by the kindness and urbanity of the guests; and he laughed and conversed, ate and drank, as if he was in the company of old acquaintances. Having satisfied his appetite, the young man prepared to resume his journey; and, having thanked the amiable Amphytrion, he called to the master of the hotel for his bill, praising at the same time the kindness of the

young gentleman to whom he was indebted for so excellent a meal. The hotel keeper refused his money, and, to his astonishment, informed him that it was to the Prince de Joinville, the King's son, that he was indebted for the honour of sitting at his table."

NARROW ESCAPE OF THE KING OF NAPLES.—We learn from Paris that letters had been received there from Naples, dated the 15th inst., announcing the escape of the King of Naples from assassination. It is stated in these letters, that a few days previously a serjeant of the royal guard had an audience of the king, on a pretext of soliciting the pardon of his brother, also a soldier, who had insulted his officer. The person who had committed the offence turns out to have been the serjeant himself. The king promised to attend to his petition, and the man left his presence, but with considerable reluctance. A few minutes afterwards he requested to be allowed to return to the king, saying that he had to reveal a conspiracy. The officer on duty thought this conduct strange, and watched the man. He perceived the handle of a pistol, and searching him found that the pistol was loaded, primed, and even cocked, and that he had another pistol in his pocket. On being interrogated, the man said he had resolved to kill the king on account of his having disregarded a petition for promotion, which he had sent to him, but that his courage had failed him when in the presence of his Majesty.

STODDART AND CONOLLY.—Captain Grover has just received letters from Dr Wolff, dated Tehran, Feb. 12th. He visited the ambassador, recently arrived from Bokhara, who denied, *in toto*, the fact of the execution of our friends. The doctor was to leave Tehran on the 14th of February, accompanied by an escort, ordered by the king, and by Rajab, who had been servant to both Stoddart and Conolly: he had been bastinadoed at Bokhara, by the Ameer's order, on account of his faithful attachment to his masters.

ROWING MATCH EXTRAORDINARY AT OSTEND.—An extraordinary rowing match took place on Thursday, off Ostend, between an Englishman of the name of Newell, and four Flemish boatmen. On the morning of the eventful day thousands repaired to the scene of action, the weather being propitious. A vast number arrived by railway from Brussels, Bruges, and Ghent, and the path alongside the wide and extensive canal leading from Ostend to Bruges was thronged with spectators, hundreds of whom were on horseback, the great majority of persons assembling at the starting place, others preferring the finishing point at Bruges, the distance to be rowed being twelve miles in still water. The rowers having taken their respective sides, Newell on the south and the Ostend boatmen on the north, they started by the report of a pistol, at two minutes before one o'clock. Newell in a few strokes took the lead, and before they had rowed two hundred yards he was at least half-a-dozen boats' lengths ahead. Despite the strenuous exertions of the four-oared crew, the sculler's boat gradually increased her distance in advance; and when half the journey to Bruges had been completed, Newell had a lead of 64 minutes. He, however, continued his course at nearly, if not quite, the same speed as at the commencement, and pursuing the "even tenor of his way," arrived at the goal a gallant winner, completing the twelve miles, and, as before stated, in still water, in one hour and forty-five minutes, beating the Belgians by upwards of twelve minutes, amid the cheering of the immense crowd assembled.

THE PIRATE OF THE MEDITERRANEAN.—A letter received at Lloyd's from their agents at Malta, of the 15th inst, of which a copy is subjoined, shows that this rover of the sea continues his lawless pursuit without hindrance or dread of detection. The many cases of recent piracy in the Mediterranean, attributed to a Greek bark which has escaped the vigilance of the men-of-war up to the date of the following letter, calls for very active measures for its suppression. The great injury which the shipping interest both at home and abroad has sustained by the repeated depredations of this pirate, would ensure much *ecclat* to him who may be fortunate enough to capture her. Certain it is that the infamous but bold depredations, if not horrible butchery, of this vessel calls for very prompt measures for her seizure. "Malta, April 15.—We have already mentioned that a suspicious-looking vessel had been fallen in with in the month of March, off Cape Passaro, by the Clipper, arrived at Smyrna. We now learn that two small craft, which sailed from Sicilian ports on the same day for this port with specie, have not reached their destination. One vessel has not been heard of, whilst the other has been picked up at sea, abandoned, with the water casks emptied, and with other signs of having been plundered."—*Chronicle*.

A CANADIAN HOAX.—At Montreal a very amusing hoax has been practised on the credulity of her Majesty's lieges. The *Gazette* tells the tale in these words:—"On Tuesday a very clever *jeu d'esprit* was played off, and if we were sure that the fair publisher would not sue us for a breach of copyright, we should certainly publish it in lieu of the news we expected to-day. It consisted of a very spacious and business-like newspaper extra, containing the important intelligence received by special express from New York, of the arrival of her Majesty Queen Victoria in Yankee land. It created quite a sensation, and numerous were the inquiries at the newspaper-office and the post-office by the credulous. Mr Porteus was, of course, unable to give any account of it, being by special express; but this was only set down to official mystery, and his incredulity to vexation at the post-office being beaten. The particulars were full, and the whole narrative could not possibly be more minutely circumstantial. As a sample of the style of the thing, we take the following paragraph:—"The royal party dined at

seven o'clock. The following gentlemen had the distinguished honor of being present—Majors general Scott and Wool, Commodore Dallas, Major Jack Downing (commanding guard of honour), the mayor of the city, and the British Consul. The greatest good humour prevailed during the evening. Among the dishes served up by our friend of the Astor none elicited more praise, or seemed to be more heartily relished by her Majesty and the Prince, than the national delicacies of pumpkin pie and apple-sauce; and upon her Majesty's retiring, Prince Albert enjoyed with great gusto a gin-sling with Major Jack Downing, who guessed that his Royal Highness had never liquored so well before."

STRANGE PROCEEDINGS AT CONSTANTINOPLE.—Our prognostication as to the probable consequences of the recent interposition of Sir Stratford Canning and M. de Bourqueney in favour of such persons as might have incurred the barbarous punishment inflicted by the Turks on relapsed apostates, has been more promptly and directly confirmed than we could have anticipated. The letter from our correspondent at Constantinople, which appeared in our columns on Wednesday, positively affirms that it was known in official quarters that a conspiracy existed among a portion of the Mahometan population, which had for its object a demonstration in favour of fanatical sentiments. The measures taken by the Turkish government were violent and arbitrary, but they appear to have been effectual. All the troops in and around the capital were got under arms, and, with their assistance, Stamboul was dragged like a fish-pond in the course of a few hours. The pike were taken out and the other fish thrown in again; or, to drop the metaphor, some 15,000 stout Mussulmans, including, more especially, the survivors of the Janissary corps, were seized, under pretence of military service, embarked in some steamers and ships of war, and conveyed without more delay to the Prince's Islands in the sea of Marmora. It seems to be ascertained that this extraordinary measure was dictated by a desire to rid the capital of the presence of a dangerous class of the population, rather than by the actual demands of the Sultan's army and navy. The persons seized have been treated as prisoners rather than as recruits. Many of those who were known to be living in domestic service have been sent back to their masters; the remainder will be drafted into the sea or land forces. This *coup d'état* is certainly one of the most remarkable acts of the Divan since the destruction of the Janissaries.

GREECE.—Intelligence from Athens of the 5th inst. announces the formation of the new cabinet. M. G. Conduriotti had been appointed Minister of Marine and President of the Council; M. Mavrocordato, Minister of Finance; M. Coletti, Minister of the Interior; M. Tricoupi, Minister for Foreign Affairs; M. Somachi, Minister of Justice; M. Metaxa, Minister of War. The Minister of Ecclesiastical Affairs and Public Instruction had not yet been named, but was to be chosen by M. Metaxa.

DREADFUL SHIPWRECKS.—By the late arrivals from the Mauritius, the most painful intelligence has been received relative to a dreadful gale of wind that visited that island in the month of January last, during which, we regret to say, an Indian named the Hugh Matthie, 538 tons burden, and two emigrant ships and two other vessels were completely wrecked. Among the latter was the ship *Amity*, belonging to Liverpool, a very fine vessel, 600 tons burden, with 182 emigrants on board, besides the crew. Only one life, however, we are glad to say, was lost. The loss of the other vessels—the *Marion*, Captain Rose; the Malay brig, Captain Shaw, and the *Bordeaux*, which had all emigrants on board, took place under precisely similar circumstances. They were severally driven from their moorings, and were cast on the rocks adjoining the harbours. Providentially in these instances not a single life was sacrificed. On Friday evening, letters reached Lloyd's, mentioning the total loss, by fire, of the ship *Palestine*, between 500 and 600 tons burden, belonging to the port of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, off the Cape of Good Hope, in the month of February last. Great anxiety is felt for the safety of the crew, none of them having been seen or heard of since the occurrence. She left Newcastle in the early part of September last, and was bound for the East Indies.

DOMESTIC.

METROPOLITAN.

THE ANTI-CORN-LAW LEAGUE.—The League held the usual weekly meeting at Covent Garden, on Wednesday evening. The attendance was not so great as it has been on other evenings, but the theatre was full. The platform and stage were crowded with influential persons. The chair was taken at half-past seven o'clock by the Hon. C. P. Villiers, M.P., and the meeting was addressed by Mr Ewart, M.P., Mr Howard Elphinstone, M.P., and Mr R. R. Moore. The assembly broke up at 10 o'clock.

THE ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL ASYLUM, CITY ROAD.—The annual examination of the children, and the distribution of rewards to the old scholars of the Orphan Working School, took place on Thursday. The examination was well attended, the large school room being crowded, principally with ladies. Charles Hindley, Esq., M.P., took the chair at eleven o'clock, and all the dissenting ministers connected with the institution being present, the honourable member officiated as examiner. He first distributed rewards, consisting of various sums of money, to young men, formerly pupils in this establishment, and read testimonials of good conduct from their respective employers, concluding this part of the business of the day with a suitable admonitory address. He next proceeded with a minute and rigid

examination of the youths on the foundation, of both sexes, extending to the various departments of religious instruction, history, geography, arithmetic, grammar, and the rudiments of music and mathematics. The utmost readiness and fluency were manifested by the pupils not only in performing the various lessons and exercises required, but in answering all the questions arising out of them, and which were put by Mr Hindley in no sparing manner, but with a degree of tact and judgment seldom observable, even in gentlemen wholly devoted to that object. His inquiries showed that the great end of education, the formation of moral character, and habits of religious discipline and reflection, had been carefully attended to. The exhibition, on the whole, reflected much credit on the assiduity and attention of the pupils, and the perseverance and talents of the masters. The dissenters of the metropolis may congratulate themselves on possessing in this institution a model school equal in every respect to the best schools under the superintendence of the clergy of the established church.—*Chronicle*.

SCHOOLS FOR ALL.—The ceremony of laying the first stone of a new building in Chequer alley, Bunhill row, to be appropriated to the instruction of the poorer classes of all denominations in the localities of Whitecross street, Golden lane, and the surrounding neighbourhood, took place yesterday. The foundation of these schools originated with Mr Grieg, of the bank of England (a member of the society of Friends), and the site on which the building is erected forms part of the cemetery belonging to that body, which has been very liberally granted for that purpose. Lord John Russell, M.P., officiated at the ceremony, where he was received by the founder, Mr Grieg, Mr Samuel Gurney, the banker, Dr Morison, Dr Cox, and many other friends of popular education, upon entering which he was loudly cheered by the assembled company. Dr Morison having addressed the meeting, Lord J. Russell next rose, and expressed his readiness at all times to contribute his influence in furtherance of the objects they had that day met to extend. The ceremony of lowering the stone to its proper position was then gone through. The stone bore this inscription:—

"The Right hon. Lord John Russell, M.P., the tried and steady friend of liberty, civil and religious, to mark his estimation of the erection of these schools for the education of the poor in this most necessitous and ignorant locality, on the broad principle of general utility, laid this stone on the 24th of April, 1844, in the presence of Mr Samuel Gurney, and many members of the society of Friends (by whom the ground was granted), and numerous ministers and other friends to the moral elevation of the poor."

The following subscriptions were announced:—Mr Greig, £250; Mr S. Gurney, £20; and several other smaller sums.

NEW ZEALAND COMPANY.—The adjourned meeting of the shareholders of this company took place on Friday at the New Zealand house, Old Broad street, for the purpose of receiving the report of the directors with reference to the result of their second application to government. Mr Joseph Soames was in the chair. The report set forth that the Colonial Secretary had rejected all the proposals submitted to his lordship by the directors, and concluded with the expression of a hope that the whole subject of the colonisation and government of New Zealand would now be thoroughly investigated by parliament. The business concluded by the adoption of a resolution approving cordially of the determination of the directors to apply to parliament for the redress of the wrongs inflicted on the company, as the meeting felt assured that they could rely on receiving from the legislature that justice which had been denied by the colonial government.

THE LONDON SOCIETY FOR TEACHING THE BLIND TO READ.—The first festival of the London Society for Teaching the Blind to Read took place on Friday evening, at the London tavern, Bishopsgate street. John Abel Smith, Esq., M.P., took the chair. Mr Septimus Ramsey, the secretary, in an address explanatory of the objects of the society, in which he takes a warm interest, stated that there were upwards of 20,000 blind persons in England. The society, since its formation a few years ago, had benefited no less than 500 of that unhappy class of the community; and there were now fifty participating in the advantages it afforded. He trusted that an institution so eminently useful would receive the cheerful support of the public [hear, hear]. It appeared that the premises at present occupied in Queen square were inadequate to the wants of the charity; and exertions were making to provide a new building, and funds were collecting for that purpose. The amount of the building fund already collected was about £300, and the sum subscribed during the evening to the institution was upwards of £400. The total sum announced was about £800.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.—DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES.—On Saturday, the annual distribution of prizes in the medical department of University college, took place at two o'clock, in the lecture room. The place was crowded in every part. The number present must have exceeded 1,000; a large proportion of the audience consisted of ladies. Lord Brougham presided on the occasion. Lord Auckland, late Governor-general of India, sat at the right hand of the noble and learned chairman. Immediately after the chair was taken, a brief report was read, in which it was stated that the number of students attending the medical classes was the same as last year; namely, 300—of whom 93 had entered this year. The following distribution of the prizes then took place:—

CHEMISTRY.

Gold medal, Mr C. W. Randall, of London; 1st silver medal, Mr Edward Cousins, of London; 2nd silver medal, Mr James Morris, of London; prize essay, 1st silver

medal, Mr Robert Ellis, of Ruthin, N.W.; ditto, 2nd silver medal, Mr Edward Palmer, of London.

BOTANY (Summer Term, 1843).

Gold medal, Mr Charles Prentice, of Kingston-on-Thames; silver medal, Mr W. H. Colborne, of Chippenham, Wilts.

MEDICINE.

Gold medal, Mr John Gabb, of Bewdley; 1st silver medal, Mr F. W. Marshall, of Norwich; 2nd silver medal, Mr W. H. Allechin, of East Malling.

ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY.

Gold medal, Mr William W. Moore, of Doncaster; 1st silver medal, Mr H. Crocker, of London; 2nd silver medal, Mr T. A. Cammack, of Spalding.

COMPARATIVE ANATOMY.

Gold medal, Mr W. H. Colborne.

ANATOMY—Senior Class.

Gold medal, Mr William Cadge, of Hoveyton, Norfolk; 1st silver medal, Mr William Brown, of Altham, Cornwall; 2nd silver medal, Mr W. L. Dickinson, of London. Junior Class.—Silver medal, Mr T. Littleton, of Saltash.

MATERIA MEDICA.

Gold medal, Mr R. Babington of Horncastle; 1st silver medal, Mr J. E. Wood, of Rochdale; 2nd silver medal, Mr Edward Cousins.

MEDICAL JURISPRUDENCE (Summer Term, 1843).

Prize.

Gold medal, Mr R. D. Harling, of Chester.

MIDWIFERY.

Gold medal, Mr James Hakes, of London; 1st silver medal, Mr Alfred Jackson, of Portsmouth; 2nd silver medal, Mr James Clifton, of Broughton.

SURGERY.

Gold medal, Mr Robert Ellis; 1st silver medal, Mr H. J. M'Dougall, of Exeter; 2nd silver medal, Mr H. Vevers, of Herefordshire.

FELLOWS' MEDALS FOR CLINICAL INSTRUCTION.

Summer, 1843—Gold medal, Mr H. Fearnside, of Otley, near Leeds. Winter, 1843-4—Gold medal, Mr F. W. Marshall; silver medal, Mr G. S. Deane, of Liverpool.

The distribution of prizes being finished, Lord Brougham addressed the meeting at some length on the encouraging prospects of the institution, and was succeeded by Lord Auckland.

SUPPRESSION OF THE ART-UNIONS.—A numerous and highly respectable meeting of artists took place on Saturday night, at Willis's rooms, to take into consideration the recent discovery of the government as to the illegality of the art-unions, and the best course to be adopted in consequence of that discovery. Mr Thomas Wyse, M.P., occupied the chair, and was supported by the members of the Council of the Institute of Fine Arts. After a statement had been made of the circumstances connected with the recent suppression of art-unions, the chairman addressed the meeting at some length on the advantages of those institutions. In the course of his remarks, he said—

Wherever art-unions had been established, the same results had followed. In Dublin and Edinburgh there had been a similar increase and a similar benefit. This money, too, had not been lavished idly. It had not been taken from the poor, and scattered uselessly amongst the rich. It had been given cheerfully, and had been spent most usefully. The money distributed in prizes during the eight years had not been less than from £40,000 to £50,000, and this £50,000 had not been given to one or two individuals, but had been scattered largely amongst all grades of merit in the community; and when, in addition to this, they considered the employment which had been afforded to the manufactures subordinate to art—to the frame maker, to the mechanist, to the bronzist, to the producer of paper, to those innumerable trades which waited as humble handmaidens upon art—they would know how to appreciate the benefit of those institutions wherever they had been planted [loud cheers].

Mr Room, of Birmingham, Mr Hurlestone, Mr Pyne, Mr Clint, and other artists, addressed the meeting, and resolutions were carried praying for legislative inquiry and interference.

OPENING OF THE PROMENADE IN TRAFALGAR SQUARE.—The spacious terrace in Trafalgar square, immediately facing the National gallery, will be thrown open to the public on Thursday next. It was originally intended to have admitted promenaders on Monday, but the works are not expected to be fully completed before dusk this evening. The walk is the length of the front of the National gallery. It is approached at each end by a handsome flight of steps the width of the walk, which is paved with chequered slabs the whole length of the terrace.

MORTALITY OF THE METROPOLIS.—The fine dry weather we have recently enjoyed appears to have exercised a most beneficial influence upon the public health, the number of deaths per week being still on the decrease, and still considerably below the average at this season. The mortality in the week ending Saturday, April 20, is stated to have amounted to 846, while the average number is 946. The only important increase in the ratio of mortality is under the head of epidemic diseases.

At a meeting of the Five Districts societies of St Marylebone, held at the Court house, on Wednesday, 24th April, 1844—Dr Sprig in the chair—the reports from the several districts were read, from which it appeared, that during the past year 3,801 persons had been relieved by their visitations, and that the sums distributed amounted to £1,395 0s 11d.

SHORT HOURS OF BUSINESS.—The movement commenced by the drapers' assistants has been taken up by the booksellers. A large meeting was held at the London Coffee-house on Thursday evening, when it was determined to memorialise the employer.

THE WILL FORGERIES.—Since the conviction of Barber and Fletcher, some important disclosures have been made, and it is expected that Fletcher will now make a full disclosure of the whole facts, by which it is stated that another celebrated firm will be implicated.—*Morning Paper*.



TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Replies to correspondents deferred until next week.

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The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, MAY 1, 1844.

We beg to announce to our readers that an Extra Number of the *Nonconformist* will be published on MONDAY-MORNING NEXT, containing a full report of the proceedings of the Anti-state-church Conference. An additional number will be published every subsequent Monday morning during the month of May, containing reports of the various religious meetings, &c.

SUMMARY.

MR BUSFELD FERRAND has been the hero of the past week—the cynosure of every eye. He has been greeted with an honour which, perhaps, no other living man can lay claim to—the almost undivided attention of the House of Commons for a whole week. His magic influence has created great excitement—and drawn crowded houses, such as the leading orators in parliament can scarce bring together. On this, as on other occasions, he has been the purveyor of sport for the entertainment of her Majesty's faithful Commons, and the amusement of her liege subjects. April is a month of license to such men as the honourable member for Knaresborough; and April, too, is an appropriate period for curious debate and funny legislation on the subject with which the House of Commons has, in its turn, ministered to the public gratification. Mr Ferrand is invulnerable. He has no character to lose, nor does any sensible man look upon him as a whit the worse for the events of the past week. The height or the depth of his position in public observation renders him inaccessible to those influences which affect ordinary men's characters. We therefore think the House has come off second best in the encounter. It has overacted its part. This careful guardianship of its honour—this affected horror of an offence which is daily committed by Mr Ferrand's brother senators—serve but to excite public ridicule and contempt; for, although the member for Knaresborough has been more bold and offensive in his charges and imputations, he has not been more libelous than have most of his betters in the house been on former occasions. Mr D'Israeli in his clever and witty speech, gave the premier a home thrust, when he referred to his charge against Mr Cobden, last session, of making speeches which prompted assassination, as a case calling for the interference of the House equally with that of Mr Ferrand. A week has been consumed, and entertainment has been afforded to the House; but beyond this we see no practical result arising from this trumpery discussion, unless it be that Sir James Graham and Mr Hogg have been declared, by the voice of the House of Commons, guiltless of political delinquencies laid to their charge, which no one, on that account, will the more or less believe, and Mr Ferrand has been branded as a calumniator, but has successfully defied the authority of the House. Surely Shakspeare must have had this case in his mind's eye, when he penned the following dialogue:—

"Prince Henry. Come, tell your reasons. What sayest thou to this?"

Poins. Come, your reasons; Jack, your reasons.

Falstaff. What, upon compulsion? No: were I at the strappado, or all the racks in the world, I would not tell you on compulsion. Give a reason on compulsion! Were reasons as plentiful as blackberries, I would not give a reason on compulsion. I!"

On Monday night, the Chancellor of the Exchequer made his annual financial statement. He gave a promising account of the state of the revenue, and held out a faint hope that next year it might be in his power to bring under the consideration of the House the propriety of dispensing with the income tax. Meanwhile he announces a surplus of £1,400,000; £400,000 of which goes towards the expenses of the Chinese war, and £239,000 to discharge the annual payment of £11,868, due to the South Sea Company by virtue of an old arrangement. Then comes the grand boon to the country, which will doubtless be applauded as a great feat of statesmanship. Ministers have succeeded in raising, by means of the income tax, £5,326,000; by which they not only cover former deficiencies in the revenue, but obtain a considerable surplus. £387,000 of this they propose to return to the public in the shape of a partial relief from fiscal restrictions! Somebody has the daring to

hint at a reduction of the estimates, at some slight attempts at retrenchment; but this does not seem to have suggested itself to the minds of our great financiers. We are, it seems, in return for the income tax, to have an equalisation of the duties on flint and bottle glass, and a repeal of the duty on vinegar; currants are to be admitted at 15s. instead of 22s. per cwt.; the duty on foreign coffee is to be reduced from 8d. to 6d. a pound, and the country is to be altogether relieved from the duty on foreign wool. The sugar duties, also, are to be slightly modified. Mr Goulburn proposes that after November next, when the treaty with Brazil expires, sugar shall be admitted from free-growing countries at a differential duty of 10s. per cwt.; that is, for British sugar, 24s., for free-grown foreign sugar, 34s. per cwt. Slave grown sugar is to remain subject to its present prohibitive duty, in deference to the anti-slavery feeling of the country. The duty on Brazil coffee, which, be it observed, is the product of slave labour, is to be reduced—the duty on Brazil sugar is on no account to be lessened. Oh, admirable consistency!

Out of doors there is little stirring. The recall of Lord Ellenborough from India by the East India company, to which we have elsewhere adverted—the hearing of the traversers' counsel in the Court of Queen's Bench, Dublin, on a motion for a new trial, which,

"Like a wounded snake, drags its slow length along"—and the agitation against the Masters and Servants bill, are the only other incidents that distinguish the week.

EASTERN COMMERCE AND EASTERN WARS.

AN event was announced a few nights since to both houses of parliament which has excited a lively sensation in the political world. Lord Ellenborough, the governor-general of India, has been recalled. This decided step has been taken, not, as might have been expected, by her Majesty's government at home, but by the board of directors of the Hon. East India Company, who possess a concurrent authority with the cabinet to nominate and to displace that high functionary. The case is the more remarkable, inasmuch as the great majority of directors sympathise with ministers in all their leading political principles, and, if report speak truly, they have not ventured upon the exercise of the extreme right vested in them by law, in direct opposition to the wishes of the cabinet, without having previously exhausted all the ordinary means of inducing them to make this act their own. The grounds upon which the board have based their decision have not yet been made public. We shall hazard no conjecture on the subject—we are not in a position to do so to advantage—but there is one point of view in which the matter presents itself to our judgment, upon which we may safely comment, and out of which our readers may derive some immediate satisfaction.

Lord Ellenborough has been recalled, we suppose, mainly because the course of his policy has been found unfavourable to the commercial interests of the East India Company. Other reasons may hereafter be pleaded as having pushed on the board to the unusual step which they have taken—but it is sufficiently obvious that this is the real one by which they have been actuated. Lord Ellenborough may be regarded as an impersonation of the war-spirit of the aristocracy—the board of directors as embodying the trade spirit of the middle classes. Experience has demonstrated that the interests of the two are not only distinct, but incompatible. They have attempted to run together in one chariot of government in the East. Many circumstances conspired to produce a strong desire that they might be found to keep pace, the one with the other. Political sympathies have come into play to conceal, as fully as possible, any actual disagreement between them. Nevertheless, they are already in a relative position of direct antagonism. The war-spirit has caracoled and dashed hither and thither with so exuberant an impetuosity, that the trade-spirit has been compelled, for its own sake, to declare off from all further companionship. The instincts of the first do not harmonise with the pursuits of the last. The recklessness of the one in search of new spheres of dignified employment for needy aristocrats, is altogether out of keeping with the caution of the other, seeking out, in the quiet and stability of governments, a profitable investment for accumulating capital. This loves to fish in troubled waters—that, in deep, transparent, unruffled pools. The noise made by the former drives far away all chances of success by the latter. War and commerce cannot go hand in hand—and hence—whatever causes may be assigned for it by the directors—Lord Ellenborough's recall—hence, the collision between the Company and the cabinet.

The event indicates hope for the future. At every step of its progress the war spirit of the aristocracy is raising up against it new and more formidable foes. True religion has always frowned upon it. International morality is becoming increasingly averse to it. Financial difficulties have hedged about its path. And now, in the East, where it has been wont to revel unchecked,

and to grow to unsightly proportions upon the rich plunder upon which it fed, the genius of commerce has risen up to rebuke it, and to warn it off to more uncivilised domains. And this it has done, with a peremptoriness and unceremonious decision of manner which give promise of the most important results. The event itself, although somewhat beside the routine with which the public is familiar, may be an affair of no intrinsic magnitude—it is but the recall of a coxcomb from a colonial governorship—but, unquestionably, it is an index of a great and most beneficent revolution, and it points to consequences involving the best interests of mankind.

Providence has wisely arranged that war, whilst it scourges the nations amongst whom it is carried, shall impose also the heaviest penalties upon those, however remote their home, who carry it. England cannot ravage China, or play the tiger in India, without entailing upon her own more permanent and peaceful interests a cleaving and a withering curse. She may let loose her malignant passions at a distance from her own shores, to fasten upon the throats of the weak, and to suck the blood of the defenceless—but not with impunity to herself. Excesses in one direction cut off the means of indulgence in another. She cannot have perpetual wars of conquest, and retain at the same time a steady and increasing trade. The pulling down and setting up of oriental thrones and princedom may be a congenial pastime for an aristocracy which spurns all industrial pursuits—but it is a pastime which is found expensive in more ways than one. It may bring new governorships and agencies places, pensions, and titles, to the non-producing class—but to the manufacturer, the ship-owner, and the merchant, it brings neither the confidence, the social order, nor the repose, necessary to keep alive any large demand for trade. If England tolerates the first, England must be content to give up the last. But the trade-spirit, in this country, is equally keen as the war spirit of our nobles, and, happily, is far more powerful. The one passion is now just coming into play, to hold in check the other—and there can be no doubt as to the side on which victory will eventually declare itself.

Such we believe to be the true *rationale* of Lord Ellenborough's recall. The noble lord is the first victim selected from the class of belligerents, and offered up to the now presiding divinity of commerce. Mars is obscured by Mercury—and his lordship's pomp is suddenly extinguished. We are entering upon a new order of things—are passing or have passed under a new and a milder political dispensation. Commerce is everywhere ousting war and all its accessories. Trading companies are displacing soldiers from their posts—and when the ascendancy of the aristocratical class shall have ceased, as cease it assuredly will before long, the time will not be far distant when spears shall be converted into ploughshares, and swords into pruning-hooks, and when universal peace shall pave the way for the universal triumph of truth, justice, and religion.

THE MASTERS AND SERVANTS BILL.

THE House of Commons has turned philanthropist. That branch of the legislature which all men set down as mindful only of selfish and class interests has, during the present session, become the poor man's advocate. St Stephen's even now rings with the heart-sickening details of the misery of our labouring population, the grasping avarice of capitalists, and the imperative necessity of parliamentary interference to put a stop to the wide-spread evil. This parental spirit seems to date its rise from the introduction of the Factories' Education bill of last year, when the legislature prescribed for the education of the children of the working classes. Its nostrum, however, did not go down with the country, and its benevolent intentions were consequently frustrated. This year parliamentary philanthropy has assumed a new form. Protection to labour has become the order of the day, and the *laissez faire* principle, as applied to capital and labour, is scouted as unworthy the wisdom, power, and character of a paternal legislature. The working classes have unhappily caught at the delusion. They have been impressed with the notion, that their welfare and prosperity are dependent upon the fiat of parliament, and thus false hopes have been engendered, which will, ere long, we fear, meet with a cruel and dangerous disappointment.

Among the first-fruits of this new-born zeal of the House of Commons for the welfare of the poor, is the Masters and Servants bill, or as it is most artlessly worded, "A Bill for enlarging the powers of Justices in determining complaints between Masters, Servants, and Artificers, and for the more effectual recovery of wages." "The more effectual recovery of wages!" How enticing is the bait! Truly, one would be apt to think, in reading this description, the House of Commons, despite its unjust withholding of the people's rights—despite its maintenance of monopolies and unjust laws, for its own selfish purposes, to the detriment of the nation at large, is at length beginning to reform itself. True, the working

classes have not made very general complaints on the subject of the recovery of wages; but it is, nevertheless, a matter of great importance to them; and is it not the duty of the legislature to anticipate wants, and provide against possible difficulties? Well! The measure is introduced in a very quiet manner, is read a second time almost without remark, and at length reaches committee, where its hideous features are all at once unmasked, and it stands revealed to view as an all-efficient instrument for destroying the last vestige of right and independence which still remains to the working classes.

The obnoxious provisions of this tyrannical measure may be briefly summed up. It empowers justices of the peace—one justice even—to decide in all disputes as to wages between masters and servants, and moreover to award any amount of damages not exceeding £10. The fourth clause enacts that if any workman shall engage to perform any work, and shall fail in complying with the terms of the contract, or shall be guilty of "any other MISBEHAVIOUR concerning such service or employment," the justice may, after having taken the oath of the master or his foreman, overseer or agent, deposing to the alleged offence, sentence the workman to be confined in the common gaol or house of correction for two months, with or without hard labour! Nor is it necessary that there should be any agreement in writing between the master and workman. It is enough that the latter should work but for ten minutes to render himself liable to two months' imprisonment for anything that his employer or his agent may consider misbehaviour. The case too, be it observed, need not come before the public; the justice may hear and condemn, if so he pleases, at his own dwelling-house. And, finally, the poor working man is allowed (O benevolent provision!) to exercise the right of appeal to quarter sessions against the decision of the justice.

All the world is aware of the manner in which the laws are administered by the "great unpaid," under the powers, which they at present possess. "Justices' justice" has become a term of opprobrium throughout the United Kingdom. But in this measure they are invested with an authority never before possessed by the highest judge of the land, and the "palladium of British liberty"—trial by jury—is suspended in order to facilitate the schemes of all-powerful capital in extracting wealth from the toil and sufferings of the industrious but unprotected poor.

Such is one of the first results of the paternal interference of the House of Commons to protect the rights of labour. Could anything give us a more vivid picture of that loathsome hypocrisy and cant, which, while it sheds crocodile's tears over the hardships and miseries of our labouring population, coolly volunteers to knock away the only barrier that protects them from the encroachment and tyranny of their employers? Have Messrs Oastler and Ferrand, and the *Times* newspaper—the self-styled guardians of the poor man's rights—nothing to say against this odious measure? Can the "leading journal" turn out a daily leader in favour of the Ten Hours bill, and not spare a single line to expose the despotic provisions of the Masters and Servants bill? The bill has not yet passed through committee; and it is doubtful whether it will ever again see the light. The working classes are thoroughly alive to their danger, and are pouring in remonstrances in the shape of petitions, which the House of Commons will scarce venture to disregard. Should it be withdrawn, we trust the masses will not fail to lay to heart the lesson which its introduction and reception are calculated to teach. When interested demagogues urge them to go to parliament for protection, let them point to the Masters and Servants bill as a specimen of the redress they are likely to obtain from an assembly in which the labour of the poor man finds no representative, and let them lend their willing co-operation to those who would seek to make such appeals unnecessary, by investing them with political power, and thus putting an end, at one and the same time, to class rule and class legislation.

LAW REFORM: ECCLESIASTICAL COURTS AND COUNTY COURTS BILLS.

THE present session is occupied with bills on these questions, as was the last, and many a session previously. The secret of the ill success of the government propositions on most practical measures, is soon told; they have no heart in them—are not framed on any general principle so obviously good as to win approval at once; but are new patches sewn on to an old garment—attempts only to cure prominent mischiefs; leaving their sources in full operation, as if left to breed occasion for future interference by the legislature.

Ashamed of by-gone failures, the government seem resolved to carry their Ecclesiastical Courts Bill, and County Courts Bill, of the present session; not, however, by departing from the patchwork character of these measures, but rather by extending this quality. To such courses all governments

must be driven, who have to convey their measures through a legislature composed as is the House of Commons. Every class and interest that is corrupt, that has an interest in misrule, has its sentinels, vigilant and active too they are, posted in that assembly, and who take care that nothing really useful, by which the "hope of their gain" would cease, shall be suffered to become a law. Attempts at improvement are not objected to, but are seized on and rendered as harmless of any good as possible; then adroitly made the occasion of ministering to a present supply of pelf and patronage, to be distributed as rewards to those who have most zealously ministered to the placing them in their position of power to do mischief, or as retaining fees for future services in that behalf. The two measures to which we wish to call attention were not permitted to pass last session, though in a better shape, at least as to one of them, than at present; but it being now discovered that they will do no harm, because they will do no good, and as they provide between them not fewer than three hundred new places, besides compensation to the holders of old ones, to be distributed among the friends of the members of the two houses, it is now insisted that there shall be no more delay, but that these bills shall each become law.

The very existence of the Ecclesiastical Courts is a reproach and scandal to the nation. They are beyond amendment; extinction, and that so complete that their very name shall be forgotten, is the doom to which they ought to be consigned; when grapes are gathered from thorns, and figs from thistles, then may so righteous a doom be expected from the vote of a parliament composed as is the present. That which is so flagrantly wrong in principle we will not consider in detail; but only allude to the measure to show how hopeless are wise and just laws at the hands of men, who can vote for the continuance of such enormities in any shape.

The County Courts bill is an attempt to stave off the national cry for amendment of the law's delay and expense. It is a petty measure, limited to causes of action for sums not exceeding fifteen pounds, leaving all the sources of the mischief complained of untouched, as regards actions of higher amount. Its provisions also virtually withdraw from the cognisance of the superior courts all suits among the smaller classes of tradesmen and among the working classes, and leave them to be decided by separate and distinct laws from those which guide the decisions in actions by parties belonging to the other classes of society. The separation of classes is not yet distinct enough; different laws between debtors and creditors of different classes are brought in aid of a further widening of the existing breach. Trial by jury, too, is to be abolished, unless at the cost of the party demanding such interference; and in all cases rendered nugatory by a reduction of the number of a jury to three or five. The ancient laws of England, under which the commercial greatness and probity of England were supposed to have been fostered and matured, are abandoned even in their principles, as to debts to be recovered under the provisions of this bill; and, in their place, the laws of continental despotisms are introduced, but only for the benefit of small creditors and debtors.

We have before us a pamphlet,* which the attempts to create these anomalies in the state of our laws has brought before the public. The learned author, Mr Boothby, of the Northern Circuit, while objecting very strongly to these innovations, proposes other alterations, consistent with the maintenance of the uniformity of the law, at the same time removing the causes of the ruinous delay and expense, forming so justly its present opprobrium. We are glad to see that our own view of the importance, feasibility, and practical nature of Mr Boothby's suggestions are confirmed by the approval of the editors of the legal publications of the day, and whose acquaintance with technicalities fit them for the office of judges of their merit. We cannot, however, hold out to Mr Boothby any hope that his plans will be adopted; they are too good; they are faulty, in that they are likely to be efficient; and present no temptations for profuse and wasteful jobbing.

We reiterate our conviction, that in this, as in every other department, whether fiscal, commercial, or religious, where the effort of the reformer is needed, no effectual improvements can be accomplished, until the great precursor of all other reforms is effected—a thorough and complete reform of the House of Commons; and that the present constituent body have to choose between a continuance of the present evils and injustice under which they groan, and an admission of the whole people, on the principles of complete suffrage, to a share in the election of the law-makers. The choice is theirs; and on them also is the consequence of choosing evil and rejecting good.

* Local Courts, not the Remedy for the Defects of the Law: with Suggestions of a Plan of Legal Reform. By B. Boothby, Esq., Barrister-at-law. 8vo. Saunders and Binning, Fleet street, London.

Imperial Parliament.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

PETITIONS FOR THE WEEK.

Coals, for repeal of duty on, 2.
Coffee, for reduction of duty on, 1.
Commons Inclosure bill, against, 4.
County Courts bill, against, 3.
for, 2.
Cotton, for repeal of duty on, 5.
Corn laws, against alteration of, 50.
for repeal of, 1.
Ecclesiastical courts bill, against, 9.
Factories bill, against, 8.
for, 28.
Free Labour Produce, in favour of, 13.
Local Courts, for establishment of, 5.
Marriages (Ireland), for declaring valid, 70.
Masters and Servants bill, against, 22.
Poor Law Amendment act, against, 8.
St Asaph and Bangor dioceses, against union of, 41.
Tea, for reduction of duty on, 6.
Tobacco, for reduction of duty on, 10.
Universal suffrage, for, 2.
Window Tax, for repeal of, 2.
Wool, for repeal of duty on, 1.

BILL READ A FIRST TIME.

Vestries bill.

CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE.

County Coroners' bill.
Ways and Means—Resolved, That, towards raising the supply granted to her Majesty, the sum of £18,407,300, be raised by Exchequer bills, for the service of the year 1844.

DEBATES.

Wednesday, April 24th, 1844.

Sir J. GRAHAM introduced the case of privilege, by moving that the passages in the speeches of Mr Ferrand, containing the two charges against the Home Secretary and Mr Hogg, should be read by the clerk at the table. This having been done, the SPEAKER inquired if the member for Knaresborough was in his place? No answer having been returned,

Sir R. PEEL rose, to tender his respectful advice to the House, as to the course which should be adopted. He had referred to the three cases in recent times, analogous to the present one—that of the complaint of Lord Maidstone against Mr O'Connell, of Mr Sheil against Mr Hill, in the case of "Who's the traitor?" and that of Mr Blackstone, who, when he was chairman of an election committee, was accused of corruption. The result of his consideration was, that the House should proceed with a strict adherence to all established formalities. Mr Ferrand had admitted the correctness of the report of his speeches containing the charges; but strict justice required that no advantage should be taken of these admissions. He would give him the opportunity of once more unreservedly acknowledging or denying the accuracy of his reported charges; and, if he admitted their accuracy, to allow him the privilege of attempting their proof before a select committee. He would, therefore, move that the complaint be taken into consideration on Friday; and, if that were affirmed, to follow it with another—that Mr Ferrand be required to attend in his place on that occasion.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL approved of this course.

Mr FRENCH protested against it.

Mr T. DUNCOMBE did not approve of any round-about method of procedure. Why not appoint a committee at once? Had he been placed in Mr Ferrand's position, he would have demurred to the right of any member to question him as to what he had said elsewhere.

Another honourable member, unconnected either with the right honourable baronet, or the honourable member for Beverley, gets up and says to the honourable member for Knaresborough, "Pray, Sir, did you say so and so of Mr So-and-so?" If such a question as that had been put to me, I should certainly have replied, "Pray, what business is that of yours [loud laughter, and great cheering]? If either of those honourable members feels himself aggrieved, I am ready to give him any explanation or satisfaction, either in or out of this house [renewed laughter]. But if they do not think proper to call upon me, I don't see what right any other honourable member has to demand from me an explanation" [laughter].

Mr D'ISRAELI next rose, and, as a member of the Nottingham election committee, bore testimony to the fairness of Mr Hogg, as its chairman. But he thought that the course which Mr Hogg should have adopted, should have been to select a gentleman of good temper and fairness to communicate with Mr Ferrand on the subject of his allegation against him, and thus obtain gentlemanly satisfaction. This did not necessarily imply a resort to Wimbledon common and pistols, for in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred, the result was otherwise. Mr Ferrand had not received fair play, for Mr Roebuck, without providing that "golden bridge" which the social spirit allows to all who may have made an intemperate speech, and acting in his voluntary capacity of "public accuser," introduced the subject without the courtesy of a previous notice. But was the House to erect itself into a court of honour whenever a charge was made by one member against another?

I heard a charge made last session by an honourable gentleman occupying a very different position from that of the honourable member for Knaresborough—by a man of high station in this House. Did not the right honourable baronet at the head of the government himself rise in this house, and charge an honourable member opposite with making speeches for the purpose of stimulating men to assassination? I should like to know who in that case moved the House against the right honourable gentleman? Yet the right honourable gentleman, when he made that declaration, must have been perfectly aware that it was one which could not be substantiated by proof. You did not attempt to cow him—you did not hoot the right honourable gentleman on that occasion as you did the honourable member for Knaresborough; but you quailed under the accusation which he could not

prove, and which you repudiated, in a way which I think reflected very little credit on your spirit [cheers].

But Mr Ferrand, being a man without a party to back him, had been baited and bullied on all hands. He himself did not sympathise in Mr Ferrand's views; on the contrary, he had told the hon. member that he had a bad cause, and a worse tribunal. Surely things must be come to a strange pass if the House of Commons were compelled to interfere on such a matter as the present, for the purpose of rescuing this strong, if not very popular ministry.

Because the honourable member for Knaresborough, when addressing large bodies of the operative classes of the community, with whom I think he has great influence—because he states "that he will stick like a leech to the home secretary"—"that the home secretary has got up a report which was never printed, but which he brought out of his red box on the green table to meet the honourable member with"—"that, confident in the energies and feelings of the people, he defied the minister and all his made-up reports, and that he should not crush him"—Good God, sir, have we come to this, that because a mere member of parliament says such things as these, men like the right honourable gentleman the secretary of state are to come forward with that demure countenance which he can put on, and say the state is in danger—that something is rotten in the state of Denmark—that the House of Commons must interfere to vindicate the reputation of this, I believe, still strong, though not popular ministry [roars of laughter].

He had been much gratified with Sir R. Peel's precedent of the bottle conjurer; but how far Lord Stanley's speech had been an example of the forbearance and conciliation which he recommended to Mr Ferrand, was another question.

Lord Stanley had charged Mr Ferrand with making statements, at the time knowing them to be false; that was the model set to Mr Ferrand! He will probably follow the noble lord's example, and we shall find the speeches of the honourable member for Knaresborough hereafter distinguished for all that amenity of manner and that choice selection of conciliatory phrase which have hitherto distinguished the speeches of the noble lord the member for Lancashire. The noble lord declares the honourable member for Knaresborough is an intentional calumniator. I should like to know how the noble lord can prove that? How will he substantiate that assertion? Better than the honourable member for Knaresborough has substantiated his?

Lord Stanley was the Prince Rupert of the House; his charge was irresistible; but when he returned to his camp, it was always in possession of the enemy. It had been truly said that gentlemen, if they chose to tell lies on the hustings, ought not to tell them in the House. But he would go further; he thought they ought not to tell lies even on the hustings, and if a man chose to declaim against the poor law there, he ought not to come hither and vote for it. If any man did this, that man was guilty of corrupt conduct, and might now move a censure against him for saying so. He would remind the prime minister of what had been said by a former, thought not greater, Sir Robert, who, when Sacheverell had been long baited and worried, declared himself tired of roasting a parson [much cheering].

Captain BULKELEY reminded the House, how the honourable member for Knaresborough had been cheered on in the most vociferous manner by a set of gentlemen who, whenever the honourable gentleman indulged in any coarse language leveled against the members of the League, or the opposition of that House, encouraged him by their sweet voices [cheers and laughter from the opposition]. They were, in great measure, the party answerable for the scrape into which he had now got. It had been very aptly remarked, that the honourable member for Knaresborough has been kept like a dog chained up to bark at the manufacturers, and that, having broken his chain, he has turned round and worried his master [cheers and laughter].

Lord J. MANNERS had been prepared to meet a vote of censure, had it been proposed, with the previous question. He thought the present motion as suitable for doing so, and accordingly moved it. He, at the same time, expressed his belief that there was much foundation for Mr Ferrand's assertions, with respect to the unseating of Mr Walter.

Mr SMYTHE seconded the amendment in a speech characterised by singular bitterness towards Mr Roebuck—

"I believe," he said, "that we attribute at once the whole of this mischief to the honourable member for Bath [cheers]. On this matter there seems to have been something like an understanding between purity and power; but, if I am called upon to justify this belief, I can only say that I derive it from an intimate study of the political career of the honourable gentleman. I have seen him attempting to deceive, by covering servility with a show of spurious patriotism, and by masking his real designs under the appearance of liberality. I have seen him aspersing all men, in hopes of securing the favour of one man, and assailing all men that he might fawn upon one man; perpetually allowing us clearly to understand that, were he not the Diogenes of Bath, he would be the Alexander of Tamworth [cheers and laughter from all parts of the House]. Mr Roebuck has taken all by surprise, nor," continued Mr Smythe "will their surprise be abated because they see in the person of the honourable member for Bath the remarkable antithesis of a rebel's agent and a queen's counsel, a panegyrist of Papineau and a champion of a secretary of state."

After some observations from Sir R. H. INULIS, deprecating some remarks of Lord J. Manners, which hinted at dueling as the proper alternative in personal disputes—

Mr ROEBUCK, having been loudly called for, rose and began his speech with a characteristic sarcasm:—

"I fear," he said, "I shall disappoint the House, for I am going to speak to the question [hear, and a laugh]. And then proceeded to say that Mr Ferrand had admitted having used the words ascribed to him; and as to the complaint that there had been no notice, surely, if a member were charged with a robbery, he wanted no notice in order to be prepared for a denial. Was

this a matter to be got rid of by the somewhat cowardly expedient of the previous question? That meant, that the House desired to express no opinion whatever. But ought the House to express no opinion upon a question whether a minister of the crown had used his power to crush one of its members? It was the duty of the House to see that no minister did so use his power; it was his own duty, as one of the members of that house, to look to this. The accuser had fled from his own charge; still the House, in its courtesy, proposed to give him a further opportunity for explanation; and all men would be glad if he should now, on consideration, candidly retract his words.

In reply to Mr Smythe Mr ROEBUCK retorted— He did not wish to suggest motives for the attack upon himself; but what was the cause of the attack which honourable members opposite had made upon their friends? Far be it from him to suggest, that disappointed expectation might account for the anger they had shown against their political friends. He had not promised the honourable members anything.

Lord HOWICK was inclined to adopt that view of the case which would contemptuously allow the matter to drop, thereby showing their utter disbelief of the accusations [hear]. If the opinion of the public went with them, a vote of censure was unnecessary; if it did not, it was useless.

Mr HUME gave his reasons for considering that all who voted for the "previous question" would lend a sanction to the accusations.

Sir J. GRAHAM would be quite satisfied if Mr Ferrand would attend in his place on Friday, and express his regret for having spoken in a way which he could not sustain. He then withdrew.

Mr HOGG in that case would also forgive and forget. He followed Sir J. Graham's example.

Lord J. RUSSELL approved of this prospect of an amicable termination of the affair; and Lord J. MANNERS withdrew his amendment protesting against an imputation that he approved of dueling.

The original motion for the attendance of Mr Ferrand, &c., was then put and carried.

Friday, April 26th.

MR ROEBUCK AND MR SMYTHE.

A curious episode in the Ferrand case arose on Friday night previously to entering upon the specific business of the evening. During the debate on Wednesday, Mr Smythe had insinuated that Mr Roebuck shaped his political conduct so as to curry-favour with Sir Robert Peel—"the Alexander of Tamworth"; and Mr Roebuck had retorted by an insinuation that Mr Smythe was animated by disappointment at not obtaining employment from ministers.

Mr ROEBUCK revived the subject, by producing a letter which he had received on the previous day from Mr Smythe, at the hands of "a friend," Captain Darell. The writer referred to a letter which he had written to his constituents, in July last, in reply to a similar insinuation, stating that he had never asked a favour from Sir Robert Peel's government; asked Mr Roebuck if he meant his remarks to have a personal application; and if so, to refer the matter to some "friend." Mr Roebuck replied verbally, that Mr Smythe should have his answer in the House of Commons. He now said, in his place, that if he had said anything to cause offence, he would make the most ample apology; but he considered that he had only given a fair retort to an elaborate attack.

Mr SMYTHE made some remarks on the peculiar character of the new surprise, and offered an apology for transgressing the rules of the House.

Sir ROBERT PEEL suggested that both members must be called upon to say that the affair should go no further.

Mr ROEBUCK only objected, because the demand assumed that he was likely to pursue the course deprecated. The SPEAKER called on the other member. Mr SMYTHE said, "that the thing was absurd;" he made a few rather chagrined remarks at Mr Roebuck's casting the odium upon him of being the only person likely to pursue the matter—talked about the member for Bath "being only a hero in the House"—was twice sharply called to order—and eventually gave the required assurance. Here the matter dropped.

MR FERRAND'S CHARGES.

The SPEAKER inquired if Mr Ferrand was in his place; and the member for Knaresborough rose and bowed.

The clerk at the table then proceeded to read the extracts from the speeches of Mr Ferrand, and raised great laughter by commencing, in a loud, monotonous, official tone, with the words, "I know a little about Sir James Graham!" The extracts having been read,

Mr FERRAND rose and apologised to the House for being the unintentional cause of taking up so much of its valuable time. Had Mr Roebuck properly advised him of his intention of putting the question, he would have given him a proper answer. In any remarks he had made, he had no intention of wounding the feelings of any individual, and, if he had done so, was prepared to afford that satisfaction which was due from one man of honour to another. The House had formed a wrong conclusion as to the cause of his retreat on Tuesday. He had been called on to deny or avow the accuracy of the reports of the charges; he had done so, and retired, from a desire not to impede their deliberations, and had certainly not fled from his charges because of the rude and unmanly interruptions to which he had been subjected. In attending on the present occasion, he was influenced by a feeling of respect for the order of the House, to which he would always pay obedience, if he thought he were justified in so doing. He had been given to understand that if he pleaded guilty he would receive a free pardon; if not, that they would proceed to

pass sentence upon him, without hearing evidence. He demurred to the authority of this self-constituted court of honour, even though no one could preside over it with more grace than the Speaker. On the other evening, when the common informer applied to him [cries of "Order!"]—"I retract the words but not the sentiment;" when that public accuser questioned him, the leading men on both sides attacked him with violent language; Lord Stanley, in particular, though he was as noble and generous a man as ever trod the soil of England; and the Prime Minister ridiculed him by comparing him to the bottle conjurer. He concluded as follows:—

As a member of this House, Sir, I solemnly protest against these proceedings. In the name of the people of England [loud laughter from the opposition], I deny your right to try me on this charge. In the name of the people of England, I pronounce this self-constituted court of honour to be an illegal and unconstitutional court; and, in the name of the people of England, I refuse to plead at its bar.

Sir JAMES GRAHAM then rose, and formally claimed, at the hands of the House, an investigation into, or acquittal of, the charges brought against him. He entered into particulars, distinctly and deliberately denying the truth of the allegations.

Mr JOHN WORTLEY suggested that an extreme value had been attached to the language of Mr Ferrand, and hoped he would get up and say that in censuring Sir James Graham and Mr Hogg he had no intention of imputing wilfully corrupt conduct.

Sir ROBERT PEEL rose, but as there was a call for Mr Ferrand, he said he would not stand in Mr Ferrand's way; and, turning towards him, remarked, that he presumed he had nothing to add to his explanation.

Mr FERRAND: "Not in this house."

Sir ROBERT PEEL proceeded, and said that, they must apply to the words of the charges the test of common sense. He undertook the office of adviser very unwillingly.

The SPEAKER here interfered, and said that, according to the rules of the House, Mr Ferrand should withdraw.

Mr Ferrand accordingly withdrew, and was followed by Sir James Graham and Mr Hogg, amid much laughter. The laughter was redoubled, when Mr Borthwick was seen hurrying after them, as if anxious to prevent a collision in the lobby.

Sir ROBERT PEEL proceeded, and after referring to various cases, that of Cobbett against himself, and that of Mr Tierney against the then Speaker, Abbott, advised the House to treat the charges as allegations of corrupt conduct, and to censure them by a formal vote, without resorting to ulterior proceedings, such as voting them a breach of privilege, which might involve them in unnecessary conflicts with individuals. Had the charges been capable of any other construction than that put upon them, it was easy for Mr Ferrand to get up and say so. Sir R. Peel then read the resolutions which he proposed, which, after reciting the charges, declared them to be unfounded and calumnious, and that they did not affect, in the slightest degree, the honour and character of the members implicated.

Mr T. DUNCOMBE proposed that Mr Ferrand should be again called in and questioned, but this proposition did not meet with favour.

Mr FRENCH proposed, as an amendment, that as the House had, on former occasions, passed over the accusations of "thimble riggers," preferred by Lord Stanley against his former colleagues, and of incentives to assassination, made by Sir R. Peel against Mr Cobden, it was not expedient for the House to take notice of the language used by members.

This amendment was not seconded.

The original resolution was then put and carried unanimously.

FACTORIES BILL.

The order of the day for the committee on the Factories bill having been read,

Mr T. DUNCOMBE moved that the bill should be referred to a select committee. He thought the limitation of the hours of labour, instead of lowering the wages of the working-classes, would tend to raise them. If the operatives were wrong in believing that a limitation of time would not reduce wages, the sooner evidence was taken to disabuse their minds, the better. He would have the committee confine its investigation to the effect which the limitation of time would have upon wages. As to Lord Ashley's limitation, there was not the shadow of a shade of a chance that it would be carried; but if the labouring classes should be disappointed, at all events, after a fair and full investigation they would submit with more patience.

Mr WARD seconded the motion. He was of opinion that the workmen were entering into a very indiscreet struggle about time and wages, and he wished for an inquiry which should open their eyes.

Sir J. GRAHAM admitted the utility of select committees for many purposes, but they were generally productive of much delay, and he did not wish to see delay applied to the present measure. Besides, this very bill was framed on the recommendations of a select committee.

Sir J. STRICKLAND thought a select committee would do no good: it would lead to no facts, but only to a mass of conflicting opinions.

Mr HUME thought the contest was not between labour and machinery, but between the manufacturers of England and those of foreigners. He objected to these interferences. We ought no more to meddle with servants in manufactories than with servants in private houses.

Mr B. ESCOTT wished to know how it would be possible to maintain that a workman would be paid as much for a shorter time as for a longer. No doubt there were cases of long hours at low wages, and short hours at high wages; but where the wages

had been low, they would have been still lower if the hours had been shortened. He would vote against this committee as a fallacy.

Mr PALMER (Essex) considered that the importance of the manufactures carried on for the purpose of foreign trade was a good deal overstated, and said that the numbers so employed did not amount to more than about 400,000 persons.

Mr VILLIERS said that they amounted to near 1,500,000. What mattered a little delay on a subject of such magnitude? There was no hurry about this bill; the masters did not wish it at all, and the workpeople did not wish it without the ten hours clause, of which, however, there was not a chance. Some of the more opulent masters were for this bill, because they thought the smaller capitals must be driven out by it. The workmen, on the contrary, thought there would be more capital brought in, and more mills built. Both could not be right; and a committee would be useful to show which was right and which was not.

Lord ASHLEY said that the workpeople were very anxious for other parts of the bill, as well as for a limitation of time, and that they considered the whole bill to be a most important improvement on the existing system. He deprecated any delay, which he was sure would be felt by the working people as a bitter disappointment; and he entreated Mr Duncombe to withdraw his motion.

Mr CORDEN combated the notion that the workpeople, being paid by the piece, would make up the reduced hours through a more rapid working of the steam engine by the masters. The fact was that the masters already worked their engines as rapidly as was profitable: it was found that at any faster rate the waste more than ate up the increased production. Nor was it true that more mills would be built, and more work thereby distributed; for that which induced a sale of your manufactures, and consequently an increased production of them, was their cheapness, which cheapness must, in the present state of things, be prevented by the reduction of the hours, unless the wages were reduced in the same proportion. When the necessary consequence should be felt, namely, this reduction of wages, the people would acknowledge very little obligation to the House for having passed a ten hours bill. The only way to benefit the workpeople was to increase, by free trade, the demand for their labour. So long as you should refuse them that resource, it would be said, and truly, that they are made to work the last two hours for the purpose of maintaining the corn laws. But free trade, he believed, would give so much additional value to capital, that capitalists would then be able to allow their people the same wages for fewer hours. One of the most intelligent manufacturers of Lancashire had only that morning said to him, that if the House of Commons would take off the restrictions on trade, he would willingly give his hands the same wages they had now, for ten hours labour [hear, hear].

The House then divided—

Against the select committee 145
For it 42

Majority against it 103

The House then went into committee on the bill, and 29 clauses were passed with but little opposition.

Mr HUME, though admitting that the statement of the Chancellor of the Exchequer was clear and explicit, dissented from the policy pursued by the government, especially on the subject of sugar, which he considered altogether a mistake, and in the maintenance of large military and naval establishments during peace.

Mr WILLIAMS followed with similar comments. From his speech we take the following extract:—

What were the circumstances of the country which now required an expenditure of £3,500,000 more than was expended in 1835 in the three branches of expenditure—the army, the navy, and the ordnance? If our expenditure in these branches of the public service was reduced to what it was in 1835, relief might be given from the income tax, which to many was so obnoxious from its inquisitorial character, especially as it affected trades and professions. If our expenditure in these three branches of the public service was compared with what it was in 1790, the difference was most striking. The army, exclusive of the commissariat department, cost in 1790, £1,840,000; last year its cost was £5,984,000. The navy, and ordnance cost last year £17,700,000; in 1790 they cost £4,380,000, the cost last year being just four times more than it was in 1790. The whole expenditure of that year was £15,500,000, whilst last year it was £48,600,000. If to this last amount were added the cost of collection, the amount of taxation taken from the pockets of the people would be £56,000,000 sterling. After above twenty years' peace, the amount of taxation had been last year greater than it had been during any year of the war.

Mr BELL called attention to the operation of the tax on exported coal, which he contended was injurious both to the coalowner and shipowner.

Mr BARING asked what would have been the state of the revenue had the income tax not been imposed? He thought that the Chancellor of the Exchequer should have stated distinctly whether or not it was to terminate at the end of the three years, or be continued for the full period of five years. He commented on the proposed reduction of duties, approving of the reduction of foreign coffee, but disapproving of the intended increase on chicory, which, he understood, was largely mixed with bad coffee, and rendered it not only usable but cheap. These, however, were small matters; not so the contemplated alterations in sugar. If they were really sincere in their abhorrence of slavery, they would not thus inconsistently and absurdly encourage it, for, depend on it, every amount of free labour sugar taken out of the European market would only leave a vacuum to be filled up by slave produce.

Sir ROBERT PEEL declined going into details on the sugar question, till the proper time arrived, and advised the House to beware of reductions in our military and naval establishments, which might leave us unprepared for any contingency that might arise. Mr Hume and Mr Williams always went back to 1792, as if our estimates were to be regulated by the demands of that period, without reference to the progress making by other nations, the introduction of steam ships of war, &c. &c. He entered into statements to show that the coal tax had not been so injurious in its operation; and thought that it was the best policy to wait till next year, when the income tax would expire, before they announced any determination whether or not it is to be continued, as they would then be in a better position for reviewing their financial condition. He claimed credit for the proposed reductions on wool, and on marine assurances, and thought that, seeing that the amount was only £400,000 devoted to reductions, no better selections could be made.

Mr LABOUCHERE spoke warmly on the contemplated alterations of the sugar duties, which he considered would prove not only fatally impolitic in principle and example, but pernicious in operation.

Mr S. WORTLEY and Mr P. M. STEWART joined in the debate, the latter complaining of the effect which the proposed alteration of the sugar duties would have, and affirming that the foolish regulations of the colonial office alone prevented the West Indies from being able to compete with any part of the world.

Lord STANLEY defended the colonial office and himself, contending that he had, since entering office, very considerably relaxed the restrictions on the emigration of free labourers, especially Coolies, to our sugar colonies.

Mutual explanations having passed between Mr P. M. STEWART and Lord STANLEY,

Lord JOHN RUSSELL did not think that the government deserved all the credit claimed for it by Lord Stanley, of having been the first to allow the introduction of Coolies into the Mauritius. He reminded the House that there was a time when the Hill Cooly question served the ministerialists when in opposition just as effectually as any other for obstructing the late government. He did not understand the nice morality which would refuse to admit Brazilian sugar, and yet claimed credit for giving greater facilities for the introduction of Brazilian coffee. If we interfered in this way, not only between free and slave labour, but between the species of slave employment, our morality would become the nuisance of the world. He foresaw that the government was fast coming round to the whig budget of 1841, with a slight difference, which would serve to cover their inconsistency for a year or two. In 1842, Sir Robert Peel had applied the principle of "buying in the cheapest market" to onion seed, spices, and herrings; the time was not far distant, it was to be hoped, when he would apply it to the article which constituted the essential food of the people. If the income tax were intended to continue for five years, it would have been better to have at once made those reductions in duties which were postponed till next year, and were intended as a compensation for it. As it was, nothing was proposed that was likely to be very dangerous to the financial interests of the country.

Colonel SIBTHORP made a characteristic attack on the whigs, who, he said, were turned out never to come in again.

He was sure his right hon. friend could not have talked of a better subject than vinegar, when he saw the vinegar aspect of gentlemen opposite [laughter]. The duty on balsam of copaiba had been reduced [great laughter]. "Well," continued the gallant member, "I didn't support it" [renewed and general laughter from all sides of the house]; "no, nor I didn't want it" [reiterated laughter]. Now he came to fire insurances, and he very much regretted that the right hon. gentleman had not removed the high duty upon that 200 per cent. upon a virtue! They encouraged prudence, prudence was a virtue, and then they taxed it most enormously [hear, hear]. He had conferred with the highest authorities upon this matter, including the directors of numerous offices, and they agreed with him in believing that if the duty were considerably reduced, it would add to the revenue; if it would not, he (Colonel Sibthorp) would make up the difference [hear, and a laugh]. In conclusion, it was but justice to his right hon. friend to say that he had received accounts from his own agent, one of the largest farmers in the county of Lincoln, stating that at the great annual fair there had been a great improvement in the purchase and sale of stock, and he hoped that announcement would be satisfactory [a laugh]. He was much obliged to the right hon. gentleman for what he had proposed; he hoped it would act as a lesson for gentlemen opposite, who he trusted would sit upon the stool of repentance for the remainder of their lives.

Mr MARK PHILIPS approved of the repeal of the wool duty, and pointed out how great an advantage a similar boon would be to the cotton manufacture. He noticed, with approbation, the announced reductions, with the exception of those on sugar; it seemed as if all the morality in the country were centred in the sugar basin and dissipated in the coffee-pot.

After some further debate, shared in by Sir H. Douglas, Mr C. Wood, Lord Howick, Mr Hindley, and Lord Harry Vane, the chairman put the question, and the House resumed, with the speaker in the chair.

Monday, April 29th.

THE BUDGET.

The House was crowded, in expectation of hearing the financial statement, which was made by

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, who occupied about two hours in making his statement. The House having gone into a committee of ways and means, he rose, and commenced by recapitulating

his estimates, made last year, of the probable returns of the revenue, and compared them with the actual results. Placing them in a tabular form, the items stand thus:—

	Estimated produce.	Actual produce.
Customs	£19,000,000	£21,436,000
Excise	13,000,000	12,960,000
Stamps	7,000,000	7,011,000
Taxes	4,200,000	4,198,000
Post office	600,000	628,000
Crown lands	130,000	147,000
Miscellaneous estimates	250,000	258,000
China money	870,000	803,000
Total	£50,250,000	£52,835,124

This increase of realised over anticipated income was favourable on the one side; and that of the expenditure was equally so on the other. They had received more than they calculated on, and they had spent less. The charge for the debt, and other items belonging to the consolidated fund, had been much the same as usual, the difference not exceeding £50,000. There was an apparent reduction in the actual expenditure for the army, as they had estimated that department of expenditure at £6,619,000, while the amount expended was only £6,118,000. But this arose from the Indian government having contributed a larger share of the expenses incurred, and the restoration of tranquillity in the East had rendered it unnecessary to keep very large sums in the military chests. There was also a reduction in the estimated expenditure for the naval service of £650,000. Last year there was a deficit in the revenue of no less than £2,400,000, that being the amount in which the income was behind the current expenditure. Not only had the whole of this been cleared off, but there was a surplus revenue, after paying debts, of £1,400,000. His estimate for the ensuing year is as follows:—

Customs, estimated at	£21,800,000
Excise	13,000,000
Stamps	7,000,000
Taxes	4,200,000
Property tax	5,100,000
Post office	600,000
Crown lands	130,000
Miscellaneous	250,000
Total, in round numbers	£51,790,000

This is the estimated income for the ensuing year. The anticipated expenditure was, first, the charge for the debt, which, last year, was £29,130,000, would be next year £27,697,000, being an apparent reduction of £1,400,000. This, however, was not a saving to the public, for it arose from the altered periods for paying the dividends, one of the consequences of the measure for reducing the three-and-a-half per cents. The real saving which would result from this reduction (from which, by the way, the amount of dissentients is very insignificant, only £247,115, considering the large amount of stock, £250,000,000, to which the operation extends)—would be, for this year, only £313,000. The estimate of the expenditure for the ensuing year stands thus:—

Consolidated fund, including deficiency bills ..	£38,997,000
Army	6,614,000
Navy	6,250,000
Ordnance	1,440,000
Miscellaneous	3,000,000
Extraordinaries	400,000

To which add £200,000, as a provision for paying off the dissentients from the reduced three per cents, and also a sum of £239,000, being the remainder of the guarantee fund of the South Sea company. The total expenditure, as estimated for the ensuing year, is £61,790, leaving an apparent surplus of £3,146,000, but a real one of £2,370,000. General expectation anticipating a surplus revenue, he had been overwhelmed with applications for reductions of duties on every article which contributed to the revenue. The first article he proposed to deal with was glass. There was a distinctive duty between bottle and flint glass, which the great improvements in the manufacture not only rendered useless, but led to frauds on the revenue, by the substitution of one for the other, in receiving the drawback on exportation. He proposes to equalise them, reducing the duty on flint glass to the rate on bottle glass, that is, from twopence per pound to three farthings. This will stimulate trade, but the alteration will lead to a loss of £35,000 this year, the alteration not commencing till July, but hereafter the loss on a full year is calculated at £45,000. The next article is vinegar, on which the duty is to be repealed altogether, and by which there will be a loss of £25,000. The inducement to repeal this duty is its large use in manufactures, especially in calico-printing. Next, the duty on marine insurances is to be altered and reduced. The duty was originally imposed in war time; when it was reduced by Lord Althorp the effect was favourable; at present it operates injuriously, by depriving us of the full benefit of that resort to Britain in marine insurance, which our capital and our credit entitle us to. At present, on every £100, where the premium is 15s., there is a duty of 1s. 3d.; up to 30s., a duty of 2s. 6d.; and above 30s., it is 5s. There is to be a new scale, as follows:—

On every £100, where the premium is 10s.	s. d.
From 10s. to 20s.	0 3
From 20s. to 30s.	0 6
From 30s. to 40s.	1 0
From 40s. to 50s.	3 0
From 50s. to 60s.	3 6
Above 60s.	5 0

Some minor reductions are to be made on stamps for agreements, and on proxies for voting for the election of railway directors. The next important reduction is to be made on the article of currants. This was now largely consumed in this country; it was mainly imported from the Ionian Islands; and the alteration is anticipated to be doubly favourable, both to the home consumer and the interests of a dependency in which we have a special interest. The duty is to be reduced from 22s. to 15s. per cwt.

This will lead to a loss of revenue amounting to no less than £90,000; but increased consumption is expected to counteract this. Then, the duty on foreign coffee is to be altered from 8d., as fixed by the new tariff, to 6d., leaving only a differential duty of 2d. between foreign and colonial coffee. This reduction is to be accompanied by an increase of the duty on chicory, which at present is largely used in the adulteration of coffee. The reduction of the duty on foreign coffee will cause a loss of £50,000. The last article with which the government propose to deal is wool, on which the duty is to be altogether repealed, which will cause a loss to the revenue of no less than £100,000. Altogether, the entire loss to the revenue which is anticipated will result from these various reductions is calculated at £400,000. But there was another important matter, to which, though not formally before them, it was important he should advert, in consequence of the general expectation which prevailed. He meant the article of sugar. Our treaty with Brazil will expire in November next; and by this treaty we are bound to admit its produce on the same terms as those of "the most favoured nations." On the expiry of that treaty, the government propose to admit the sugar of foreign countries, where it is raised by free labour, at a differential duty of 10s.; which, as the colonial duty is 24s., will admit free foreign at 34s. This would extend our trade with countries east of the Cape of Good Hope, and enlarge our commerce with China itself. This neither involved a sacrifice of principle nor hostility to Brazil, for the reduction of the duty on coffee was a proof of the contrary. Their object was to prevent sugar, the produce of countries tainted with slavery, from being imported into this country. But he referred all details to the time when the annual Sugar Duties bill will be discussed; and concluded by congratulating the House on the cheering prospect of increasing prosperity which the state of the revenue afforded.

MISCELLANEOUS.

REFORM OF THE REFORM BILL.—On Wednesday, Mr Thomas Duncombe gave notice that on Thursday, the 9th of May, he would move for a select committee to inquire whether in any and which of the boroughs having a right, under the 2nd William IV., cap. 45, commonly called "The Reform Act," to send a member or members to the Commons House of parliament, such member or members have been, or are, directly or indirectly, nominated by or returned through the influence of peers or others.

THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY.—Neither House sat on Thursday; the Lords adjourning from Tuesday to Friday, the Commons from Wednesday to Friday.

RECALL OF LORD ELLENBOROUGH.—On Friday evening, Sir Robert Peel made the startling announcement, in answer to a question from Mr Macaulay, and amid loud opposition cheers, that the Court of Directors had issued an order recalling Lord Ellenborough from the government of India. Mr Macaulay said that, under those circumstances, he should not bring forward his motion respecting the occupation of Gwalior; as no charge ought now to be made against Lord Ellenborough until he should be present in this country. On Friday, in reply to Mr Roebuck, Sir Robert Peel re-stated that the recall of the Governor-general had originated with the Court of Directors of the East India Company. The nomination of a governor-general was vested in the Company, subject to the approval of the Crown, but they had the absolute power of recall. The Court of Directors had not taken the government by surprise, for the Executive were duly apprised of their intention before it was formally exercised; but he declined entering on the subject, or stating the reasons for the determination. The government would take care to prevent the inconvenience and danger which they foresaw would follow the proceeding.

NEW ZEALAND.—On Friday, on the motion of Mr Aglionby, a select committee was appointed to inquire into the state of the colony of New Zealand, and into the proceedings of the New Zealand Company.

On the same evening, a new writ was issued for Horsham, in the room of Mr Scarlett, now Lord Abinger.

The committee on the Factories bill was on Monday night postponed to Friday.

THE BRITISH MUSEUM.—In reply to Mr M. Milnes, Sir Robert Peel said that the plan of the new facade of the British Museum had received the sanction of the Lords of the Treasury and subsequently of two committees of the House of Commons.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

FREE TRADE AND SLAVE SUGAR.—After the presentation of a large number of petitions for and against the Dissenters' Chapel bill, Lord Brougham presented a petition from Thomas Clarkson, "entreating their lordships to give their sanction to such fiscal regulations as might admit foreign sugar into the markets of this country, provided it came from settlements in the east, or from Manilla, where free labour alone was employed; and further praying their lordships to adopt no measure whatsoever that would have a tendency, direct or indirect, immediate or remote, to allow the importation into the markets of this country of sugars grown in Brazil or Cuba, the produce of slave labour." He also presented a similar petition from members of the Anti-slavery Societies of London and Colchester. Lord Kinnaird combated Lord Brougham's assertion in a public letter on the subject, that this country never had much trade in sugar with slave states—

We sent our goods to Cuba, and took their sugar in exchange. That sugar we afterwards carried to Russia, and received in return their flax and tallow. This cer-

tainly was a roundabout way of managing the business, but still it was a dealing with slave states. The fact was, that a certain interest was to be supported, and they were afraid to allow the unfortunate people of this country to have their sugar at one-half the price at which they might procure it if importation from those forbidden settlements were permitted.

Lord Brougham said the whole argument of his letter went to prove this, that if they opened the ports to a new trade in sugar with the slave states, they would absolutely and inevitably add to the African slave trade. He should be happy to meet his noble friend on the question whenever he thought proper to bring it forward.

RECALL OF LORD ELLENBOROUGH.—The Marquis of Normanby asked if the communication made on this subject, in "another place," was true. The Earl of Ripon replied that it was. Lord Colchester asked whether the act of the East India directors had met with the sanction and approbation of government? The Earl of Ripon—"In answer to that question, I have only to say that it has not." Lord Normanby withdrew his motion on Gwalior, which stood for Monday next. Lord Brougham expressed his surprise that the Board of Directors should have the power of recalling a governor-general without the consent of the Board of Control. It was surely an oversight in the framing of the act of parliament.

The Dissenters' Chapels bill was read a second time *pro forma*.

The Earl of Powis, after presenting a large number of petitions against the union of the sees of St Asaph and Bangor, gave notice that he would bring the subject under the consideration of the House shortly after the middle of May.

Monday April 30th.

The Duke of Wellington, in reply to Lord Colchester, stated that the Court of Directors of the East India Company had given their reasons for the recall of Lord Ellenborough, with which, however, the government did not agree, as they approved of the policy and conduct of the Governor-general.

A long discussion took place on the subject, in which the Earl of Clanricarde and Lords Brougham, Normanby, and Campbell joined.

PROVINCIAL.

HORSHAM ELECTION.—Everything with regard to this election is at present in a state of the utmost uncertainty. The friends of Mr Hurst say that there will be no opposition, and that his return, therefore, is certain; but other well-informed parties are of opinion that there is some good reason for the delay in issuing the writ, and that a conservative candidate will come forward, and some even go so far as to say that Mr Thesiger is to be the man. —*Times*.

REDUCTION OF THE HOURS OF FACTORY LABOUR.—We are informed that the proprietors of one of the most extensive cotton factories in Preston have intimated to their spinners, and other workpeople in their employment, that, if they wish it, they will reduce the hours of labour to eleven daily. The spinners generally have expressed a willingness to accept the offer, and there is little doubt but the whole of the hands will take advantage of it. There will, we believe, be a proportionate reduction of wages. —*Preston Chronicle*.

ADULTERATION OF TOBACCO.—Two tobaccoists at Liverpool, named Nelson and Brown, have been proceeded against by the Excise, for the adulteration of tobacco, by means of saccharine matter and sand. Nelson, who had been previously convicted for a similar offence, was fined in a penalty of £300, and the tobacco, which is worth £40 or £50, was condemned. In the case of Brown, who was condemned in two penalties, one of £300 and the other of £200, it being his first offence, a representation is to be made in his favour to the Board of Excise. The defendants left the court, and were followed by several excise officers, for the purpose, it was said, of taking them into custody.

THE SEASON AND THE CROPS.—The present season has hitherto been one of the finest that we have had for several years for promoting the growth of those crops which are already sown, and enabling the farmers to prepare the land for those which remain to be sown. In all the counties of England between Liverpool and Southampton, as well as in Normandy and the other northern provinces of France, in Belgium, in Rhenish Prussia, and in Germany as far as Frankfort, the wheat crops this year are most promising. We do not remember to have seen above half-a-dozen bad fields of wheat in a journey of 1,000 or 1,200 miles. In general the plant is very thick, the colour good, and the promise of the crop excellent. The same observation applies to the oat, the rye, the clover, and other crops on the continent, and to the grass crops in England. —*Liverpool Times*.

INTERESTING TRIAL OF SPEED.—On Friday an interesting trial of speed took place between that fast steamer the Princess Alice, and the new steamer, No. 10 Waterman, belonging to the Waterman's Steam-packet company, whose extraordinary performances in the river have lately excited so much interest. This steamer, which was only 107 feet long, was built by Messrs Ditchburn and Mare, and carries two engines of 16-horse power, constructed by Messrs Penn and Son, of Greenwich, left Woolwich on Thursday, on a trial trip, with coals for five days' consumption, and ran down to Margate in four hours and fourteen minutes; afterwards she crossed over from Margate to Ostend, against a strong head wind, in five hours and twelve minutes. Yesterday she came from Ostend, and reached Calais just before the Princess Alice left for Dover; she then laid to for the latter, and, start-

ing with her, quickly outstripped her larger competitor, when the latter hoisted two sails to the wind, and in return walked past the Waterman, and entered Dover harbour only two minutes before her. The Alice performed the distance in one hour and forty minutes. —*Dover Telegraph* of Saturday. [We regret to find that the Waterman on Saturday ran on the rocks off the Priory, near Hastings, and sank in the sand.]

HORRIBLE SPECTACLE.—On Thursday, the 18th inst., at Barmoor limekiln, near Lowick, Northumberland, James Johnstone, aged 45, labourer, was standing on a large mass of limestone, and endeavouring to break it in pieces, when it suddenly sunk down about five feet, and he became imbedded in the centre of the burning kiln. His fellow-labourers, and several quarrymen, endeavoured to extricate him from his awful position, but without success. He was wedged in so fast that they could not draw him out with a rope, which they had thrown to him, and which he had fastened round his body; neither could they drag him out by means of horses, brought from Mr Phillips's farm. The miserable sufferer threw the burning stones from about him until his fingers were burnt off; still he could not be liberated. His thoughts seemed ever more intent upon his children than upon himself. He was continually lamenting the too-evident prospect of their becoming fatherless. His sister was present at the awful scene, but would not allow the children to be brought. Dr Taylor, of Lowick, also witnessed the sad sight, and told the wretched man, at length, that his death was inevitable. His legs were nearly burnt from his body, and his bowels protruded; yet (strange to say) he stated that he suffered no pain! He stretched out his arms, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and offered up a solemn and earnest prayer for himself and children; and then, drawing his hat over his eyes, he died—within three-quarters of an hour from the time of the accident—retaining the full possession of his mental powers to the last. The body was afterwards lifted out of the kiln by means of a rope and pulley. —*Gateshead Observer*.

IRELAND.

THE STATE TRIALS.—The Crown having at length finished their supplementary affidavits, without at all making out a rebutting case, the arguments on the motion for a new trial commenced on Thursday, and Mr Whiteside, who led, as counsel for Mr O'Connell, occupied the court the whole of the day. The speech of the learned gentleman is one that cannot fail to produce a profound impression throughout the empire, respecting the manner in which this state prosecution has been managed from the outset. Four counsel, on the part of as many of the traversers, were also heard in support of the application for a new trial. They are, Mr Whiteside for Mr O'Connell; Mr Hatchell for Mr Ray; Mr Moore for Mr Tierney; and Mr O'Hagan for Mr Duffy. After Mr O'Hagan had concluded on Saturday afternoon, the Solicitor-general proceeded to reply on the part of the Crown; but had not concluded at the rising of the court. He was expected to occupy the attention of the court a considerable part of Monday. The *Chronicle* gives the following additional information:—"Then four counsel follow for the traversers—namely, Mr Fitzgibbon, who will occupy one day at least; Mr M'Donogh, who will fill up the second day, say Wednesday next; Sir Coleman O'Loughlen and Mr Henn, who cannot have less than another day. This arrangement would bring the argument to Thursday evening. Supposing the Attorney-general could not reply until Friday, the decision of the court on the new trial motion could scarcely be given until the next day, Saturday, the 4th of May. If that decision should be adverse to the traversers, Sir Michael O'Loughlen would at once announce their determination to move an arrest of judgment. Even if the court took the earliest moment of hearing the argument on that point, it would not be without some straining and precipitancy that all the proceedings up to sentence could be gone through within the present term."

MORE MISSING JURORS.—The *Freeman's Journal* contains the following:—"Nine of the ten parties who had 'constant' access to the jury lists have sworn that four-and-twenty jurors, whose names were placed upon the jury lists by the recorder, were omitted by special accident—of course it was not by special desire—but they were omitted. The guilty party, whoever he be, shall be dragged from his lurking-place, and already the first step to that end has been taken, several affidavits having been made by catholics, to the effect that they were qualified before the recorder as special jurors, but that their names never appeared upon any of the lists; and none of these men are among the twenty-four. How will the Crown meet this?"

SCOTLAND.

THE IRON TRADE.—We understand that, at a meeting of the iron trade, held yesterday (17th inst.), it was unanimously resolved, unasked, to advance the wages of the colliers and miners in the Monkland district 6d. per day, on condition of the absurd restriction by the miners to two-thirds of their out-put being given up. —*Glasgow Argus*.

REFUSAL TO TAKE AN OATH.—A respectable member of the baptist church in Dunfermline, being last week a witness in a case before the sheriff, refused to take the oath, from conscientious scruples regarding Christ's command, "Swear not at all." He was sentenced to two days' imprisonment in jail for contempt of court—a sentence which was fully carried into execution. The baptists in Dunfermline have several times petitioned that they might enjoy the same immunities, in regard to oaths, as do the quakers, but hitherto without effect. —*Fife Herald*.

REPRESENTATION OF THE CITY OF EDINBURGH.—At the annual meeting of the Edinburgh Anti-corn-law Association, on Monday, the 22nd inst., when about 600 persons were present, a resolution was passed calling on their members to support Mr Villiers's motion for the total and immediate repeal of the corn-laws. A second resolution, recommending to the ordinary committee that, in the prospect of a dissolution of parliament, they shall take care that candidates be brought forward to represent the city of Edinburgh whose views on the question of freedom of trade shall be in unison alike with those of the great body of liberal electors, and of the Anti-corn-law league, was opposed as premature, and likely to sow dissensions, but the opponents found very little countenance in the meeting, were scarcely listened to, and on a show of hands were supported by only twenty-seven hands. The resolution was carried, and loud cheers welcomed it from all parts of the room.

Miscellaneous.

LONDON DISTRICT POST-OFFICE NOTICE.—On Saturday last, the 27th ult., the following notice was issued by all the district post-offices in the metropolis:—"London District Post-office, May the 1st. On and from this day, there will be ten deliveries of letters in London daily, and the dispatches will be made from this office at the following times, 8, 10, and 12 in the forenoon, and at 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 8 in the afternoon. By this alteration, letters for the country districts posted before 3 o'clock will be delivered the same evening, and those posted before 5 will be delivered within a circle of six miles from the General Post-office the same night. Letters for the last delivery must be posted before 6 o'clock, and this delivery includes all places within a circle of three miles from the General Post-office. N.B.—Letters for the first delivery in the morning must be posted before 8 the previous night."

VISIT OF THE COURT TO THE ISLE OF WIGHT.—We believe that there is now very little doubt that her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert, accompanied by the infant royal family, contemplate paying a visit to the Isle of Wight, at an early period in the ensuing month. The sojourn of the Court at Osborne-house is not expected to exceed more than a week or ten days. The residence will be the private property of the Queen, and no public money whatever will be expended upon it.—*Times*.

THE RECALL OF LORD ELLENBOROUGH.—The precise reasons for the recall of Lord Ellenborough by the court of directors of the East India Company were on Saturday the subject of much discussion in political circles. Nothing official has yet transpired to satisfy the public curiosity on this point; but we understand that the strong measure of the Court of Directors proceeds not so much from any objections to the general policy of Lord Ellenborough as from considerations of minor importance. It is said that the bearing of his Excellency towards the Court was not marked, in their opinion, by sufficient deference to their high authority; that he did not, in fact, accommodate himself enough to their wishes and expectations in matters partaking rather of the character of detail in his government than of general direction.—*Observer*. The *Morning Post* calls to mind a rumour, current a little while ago, that Sir James Graham was to go out as governor-general, with the title of "Lord Netherby."

EXHIBITION OF DECORATIVE ART.—The specimens of decorative art submitted to the Royal Commission were opened to public view on Monday. The great room of the St James's bazaar, at the corner of King street, is hung round with examples of stained glass, arabesque painting, wood carving, inlaid flooring, and metal work; and a few miscellaneous articles of manufacture are placed on and about the staircase. The display is disappointing, even to moderate expectations; little taste, and less talent, is shown in the designs, while the amount of executive skill is small, and not of a high order. This is partly accounted for by the circumstance that some of the first decorative artists have not thought it worth while to compete. Whatever may have been their reasons for withholding specimens, it is to be regretted that the first call of the country on the ability of our artisans should have been so feebly responded to.—*Spectator*.

OPENINGS OF RAILWAYS IN MAY.—This month promises to be remarkably prolific in the opening to the public of various important railways throughout, that have hitherto been but partially or not at all in operation. On the 4th will be opened the Liverpool and Derby Junction line. Early in the month also, as is understood, the West London railway will be brought into full operation, to the great advantage of the Birmingham and Great Western lines, whose passengers will be furnished with a west-end terminus. Then the Bricklayers' Arms branch, that affords a like accommodation to the Croydon and Dover railways; and the Norwich and Yarmouth railway will come into play in the present month, the opening of the latter being fixed for this day. Lastly, and most important of all, the Bristol and Exeter was to be opened to the traveling public, completing nearly two hundred miles of railway to the western parts of England.

FACTORY LABOUR.—An interesting document has been printed, entitled "A Return from 412 Cotton Mills in Manchester and its surrounding Districts, carefully prepared by the proprietors and occupiers," and bearing the signatures of the first cotton spinners in Lancashire, of all parties. These 412 mill-owners employ 116,281 operatives, of whom 55,183 are males, and 61,098 females. Of this whole number 95,642, or 82 per cent., are able to read—

tolerably decisive negative to the assertions that factory labour prevents education. Would the agricultural districts show as good a return? The weekly wages paid by persons employing 112,796 operatives are £57,881 18s. 1d.—being an average to men, women, and children, of 10s. 3d. each. Would the agricultural districts give half the amount? It appears, from 110 returns, that the piecers travel nine miles a day at their work; whereas Lord Ashley spoke of twenty-five to thirty-seven miles! Out of the 412 mill-owners, 167 have reported the following accidents occurring within an average period of 204 years; viz.—72 occasioning death, 168 loss of limb, and 13 not specified: 196 have reported that no accidents involving loss of life or limb have occurred in their factories in an average period of 134 years. The proportion of accidents, therefore, appears to be about one death per annum in 104 mills, and one loss of limb in 41 mills. From 49 of the mills no returns have been made with respect to accidents. From the return of accidents (by coroners, &c.) sent with this return, it appears that out of upwards of 858 accidents occasioning loss of life, only 29 (or three and two-fifths per cent.) have been occasioned by factory machinery, while 79 have been caused by carts, coaches, &c., and 85 by coal pits. Out of the 116,281 operatives, only 4,011 are under 13 years of age; so that the factory legislation has nearly banished the children from the cotton mills. Between 13 and 18 years there are 34,105. The 412 firms are assessed to the poor's rate in the aggregate amount of £179,767.

HER MAJESTY'S BIRTHDAY.—Thursday being the day appointed for the celebration of her Majesty's birthday, when she attained her twenty-fifth year, the morning was ushered in by the ringing of a merry peal at the churches throughout the metropolis, Kensington, and Windsor. The royal standard was hoisted at the Tower, Somerset house, the Italian Opera, St Martin's, St Giles's, and St Margaret's church, Westminster. At ten o'clock, A.M., there was a grand parade in St James's park of a battalion of each regiment of foot guards, in their new uniforms, attended by their respective bands, when they were inspected by the Duke of Wellington, commander-in-chief, and colonel of the grenadier guards; by his Royal Highness Field-Marshal the Duke of Cambridge, colonel of the Coldstream guards; his Royal Highness Prince Albert, colonel of the Scots fusilier guards; and Field-Marshal his Majesty Leopold, the King of the Belgians, and a numerous military staff. After the parade, the bands of the three regiments of guards marched to the Colours court at St James's palace, where they performed several choice pieces of music. At one o'clock a royal salute was fired by the guns in St James's park and the Tower, when her Majesty proceeded to St James's, where she held a drawing room, which was most brilliantly attended. The bishops, judges, ministers, magistrates, members for the city, foreign ambassadors, and others, were present in great numbers. In the evening the different cabinet ministers gave state dinners in celebration of the event, and the west end of the town was very generally illuminated. The Houses of Parliament did not sit, in order to enable the cabinet ministers and the great officers of the household to give the usual entertainments. There was a grand birth-day *r  union* at Almack's, in the evening; the ladies who had attended the drawing-room appearing in the court costume they had worn in the morning.

THE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA.—We have reason to believe that his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias will arrive in this country on a visit to her Majesty in the course of a few weeks. The Emperor is expected about the second week in May.—*Times*.

DUELING.—THE ARMY.—In the amended articles relating to dueling, just issued from the War office by her Majesty's authority, "for the purpose of more effectually discouraging and prohibiting a practice which is a violation of her Majesty's orders, and a flagrant breach of the law of the land," we find that—

"These articles declare that it is suitable to the character of honourable men to apologise and offer redress for wrong or insult committed, and equally so for the party aggrieved to accept, frankly and cordially, explanations and apologies for the same.

"If such redress be refused to be given, or to be accepted, and the friends of the parties have failed to reconcile the differences, a reference should, in conformity with the signification of her Majesty's pleasure in the 106th article, be made to the commanding officer on the spot, who will use his best advice and influence to reconcile the parties; and the differences having been honourably settled by the good offices and responsibility of the commanding officer, ought never to be revived by either party, or by any other officer, or body of officers; if, however, the commanding officer fail to reconcile the parties, it will become his duty to take such measures as he may deem necessary in order to prevent a duel, or to maintain good order in her Majesty's service, and the person refusing to be reconciled will be liable to be brought to a court martial, and, if convicted, cashiered, or suffer such other punishment as the court may award.

"All parties implicated in dueling are liable, on conviction before a general court martial, to be cashiered.

"Her Majesty's pleasure is expressed in the 107th article, that officers, being the friends or seconds of the parties, shall exert their influence to adjust a difference on terms consistent with the honour of each of the parties. The failure in settling a difference being generally attributable to excessive demands for reparation made by one of the parties, the conduct of the seconds, by the 107th article, is made liable to be investigated as well as that of the principals, in all cases in which a dispute shall be referred for the consideration of a general court martial.

"Personal differences between gentlemen living together as brother officers can seldom fail to be honourably and promptly adjusted, in the first instance, by explanation between their mutual friends."

EVERYBODY'S COLUMN.

The personal property of the late Sir Francis Burdett has been sworn under £160,000.

The *Sun* attributes recent pecuniary embarrassments in the Royal household to the extravagance of tradesmen, and the license allowed them by the treasury officials.

Last week government again distrained on Messrs Fielden for the second year's income tax.

Is there a word in the English language that contains all the vowels? There is, unquestionably.

The Chinese have a notion that the soul of a poet passes into a grasshopper, because it sings till it starves.

The town council of Inverness, by a majority of one, resolved not to send a representative to the ensuing General Assembly.

A cargo of guano manure sold in Glasgow market last week at from £5 13s. to £7 5s. per ton.

Her Majesty's accouchement may be expected about the beginning of July.

The small island of Tarinsay, one of the Hebrides, has been invaded by myriads of rats, supposed to have come from another island, that of Soay, about three miles distant.

The total quantity of foreign cheese imported during the year ending Jan. 5, 1844, was 179,389 cwt.—viz., European, 136,998 cwt., American, 42,312 cwt., colonial, 79 cwt.

On Maundy Thursday, the Emperor of Austria washed the feet of twelve aged men, the oldest 110, the youngest 83 years of age; the Empress performing the same services for twelve aged women, the oldest 106, the youngest 84.

The Mediterranean sea is recorded to have been twice frozen over. Once, A.D. 869, and again, A.D. 1234, and on both occasions the merchants carried their goods over in carts.

The atmosphere was on Tuesday so rarified, that Calais was plainly discernible with the naked eye. The vessels could be seen leaving the harbour without the aid of a glass.—*Dover Chronicle*.

The poor rates in England and Wales are gradually on the increase. They were, in 1839, £5,613,939; in 1840, £6,014,605; in 1841, £6,351,828, and in 1842, £6,552,890.

FUNERAL EXPENSES.—Five millions sterling are expended annually in England and Wales in funeral expenses; four of the five go to pay the fopperies of death.

RAW COTTON.—On Tuesday a numerous meeting of merchants and manufacturers, interested in the cotton manufacture, took place in Manchester, when a memorial to Sir Robert Peel, praying for a repeal of the tax on cotton, was adopted, and a deputation appointed to wait on Sir Robert Peel on the subject.

It appears, from the report of the Poor Law Commissioners, that the number of chargeable illegitimate children in Lancashire, is only one in 425 of the population; whilst, in several agricultural counties, the proportion is one to 200; in Herefordshire, one to 108; in Westmoreland, one to 89; and in Wales, one to 59.

It is in the contemplation of government to erect another police court on the Surrey side of the metropolis, for the districts of Lambeth, Clapham, &c. They have at last fixed upon a spot in the Kennington road, near the Zoological gardens.

The following is a copy of a joiner's bill for jobbing in a Roman catholic church in Bohemia:—"For solidly repairing St Joseph, 4s.; for cleansing and ornamenting the Holy Ghost, 6d.; for repairing the Virgin Mary, before and behind, 6d.; for turning a nose for the devil, putting a horn upon his head, and gluing a piece to his tail, 4s. 3d.; total, 9s. 3d."

CONCLUSIVE REASONS FOR NOT PAYING FOR A NEWSPAPER.—"Please say to the editor of the *Richmond Christian Advocate*, that it would doubtless be well to erase the name of C. C. from his books, and give up as gone that 760 dollars. He says, in the first place, he never ordered the paper, and if he did, he never got it; and if he did, 'twas as an agent; and, besides, he thinks he paid for it long ago; and if he didn't, he has got nothing to pay, and if he had, he could plead the act of limitation."

The chicory question is definitively set at rest, Messrs Franks and Millard having received a reply from the Lords of the Treasury to the effect that it is legal for grocers to have it on their premises, and to mix it with coffee.

A LEARNED FRENCH JOURNALIST.—A writer in the *Constitutionnel*, one of the leading journals in Paris, states that the Childe Harold of Lord Byron was an ancient Saxon king! Another paper states that Gloucester is a large manufacturing city in Scotland! A third avows that no Englishman, Irishman, or Scotchman, can open a shop, or sell confectionery or lucifer matches, without the authority of the parliament or the Queen!

WEEKLY COST OF PROTECTION TO SUGAR AND WHEAT FOR THE WHOLE KINGDOM.—Balance from last week, £6,435,409; extra cost of sugar this week, £70,003; ditto of bread, £288,460; total extra cost from January 1st to this day, £6,793,872. For the metropolis alone, balance from last week, £977,945; extra cost of sugar this week, £5,833; ditto of bread, 24,038; total extra cost from January 1st to this day, £1,007,816.—*Economist*.

QUEEN'S COUNSEL.—It is rumoured in Westminster hall that Mr Kinglake and Mr Butt, of the western circuit, are likely to be promoted to the dignity of Queen's counsel.—*Standard*.

THE KING OF THE FRENCH.—We understand that there exists no longer any doubts respecting the visit of the King of the French to this country. The precise period of his Majesty's arrival has not yet been definitely decided; but there is, we believe, every reason to suppose that he will land at Portsmouth.—*Post*.

Religious Intelligence.

BAPTIST UNION.

The following is the abstract of the foreign correspondence referred to in the report given in our last number:—

EUROPE.—HAMBURG.—A letter has been received from the Rev. J. G. Oncken, dated April 16, 1844. Acknowledging the address of the Union, he says:—“I had 100 copies of it printed, and transmitted it not only to the churches, but also to many of the brethren who live remote from any church.” And he adds, “Several churches and private Christians have expressed themselves in terms of the warmest gratitude for this document.” “It affords me pleasure, he proceeds to say, ‘to be the bearer of good news to the Union, in reference to the cause in this city, and the work generally. The ‘powers that be’ begin to look on us with a more enlightened judgment: at least we conclude so, from the peace we have enjoyed from this quarter. Since August, 1843, fifty-eight willing converts have been baptised; and hardly a week transpires in which we have not some hopeful candidates for baptism. In Hanover and Holstein the Lord is beginning to open a wide door for us; and in the grand duchy of Oldenburg, and part of the kingdom of Hanover, where our brethren labour under many grievous restrictions, and more privations, the truth prevails notwithstanding. Twenty-two converts were baptised, in different parts of Hanover, during 1843; and about an equal number in several parts of Oldenburg. The twenty-two churches in various parts of Germany and Denmark, have in all from eleven to twelve hundred members.”

COPENHAGEN.—A letter has been received from the Rev. Peter Ch. Münster, dated October 21, 1843. He says that Mr Rapp, a well-known friend, had translated the address of the Union for him; and adds: “having made several copies of it, I put it into circulation, and in my journeys through the country, I brought it to several congregations and scattered baptists. And I now offer you, in behalf of all Danish baptists, our most hearty thanks for your Christian and brotherly interest in our joys and sorrows.” At that time they were unmolested; but, says Mr Münster, “how long this will last is uncertain, since we feel ourselves, by the word of God and our consciences, every day compelled to transgress human laws; for we are not permitted to baptise, or hold public prayer meetings. Government would fain be forbearing, being now fully aware that, by punishing, it effects the very reverse of its purpose.”

BERLIN.—Two letters from the Rev. G. W. Lehmann. One dated August 14, 1843, containing a fervent expression of thanks for the letter of the Union. The second is dated January 31, 1844. Mr Lehmann says: “We received your very encouraging letter to the churches in our country, and I sent copies of it, translated, to those around me, especially in Prussia.” He says also: “I derive much pleasure from your Report, and hope that, in a periodical paper which we intend to publish, it will find a place, and be of great interest to the churches.” He states that some of the churches were tried by persecution; and that the government was framing what may be called a toleration act, full of restrictions, granting the baptists in the mean time considerable practical liberty.

BRITISH NORTH AMERICA.—CANADA.—Information has been received of the formation of a Baptist Union for this colony, adopting almost verbatim the constitution of this body.

NEW BRUNSWICK.—A letter has been received from the Rev. C. Spurden, dated, Fredericton, January 24, 1844. He states that some particulars from the report of the Union had been inserted in the *Christian Messenger*, a leading paper of the colony; and gives the statistics of the New Brunswick Association. He says, “There is a prevailing desire in this province, and also in Nova Scotia, for a more intimate union with the denomination in the mother country, than has hitherto existed.” A very pleasing indication of this desire has come to hand, in a letter from the Rev. J. S. Smith, and two other brethren, who write, under date of the 24th of January of the present year, as follows:—“The baptists in this province, being desirous to cultivate a more intimate acquaintance with the state and movements of the denomination in England, selected us, at their annual meeting in 1842, as a committee, to open a correspondence with their brethren in your country, and continued the same in 1843; but, not being aware of the existence of the Union in England, we were at a loss to know how this desirable object could be brought about. But by the kindness of the Rev. Mr Spurden, a copy of the Union report of 1843 was recently handed us, by which we perceive that the baptists in England are desirous to receive information relating to the denomination throughout the world. We therefore most gladly avail ourselves of the opportunity.” These brethren state that the baptists (including the free-will or general baptists, who, however, are not organised) constitute decidedly the largest religious denomination in the province.

UNITED STATES.—A letter has been received from the Rev. Baron Stow, dated Boston, 27th February, 1844. He stated that the year 1842 was distinguished beyond all precedent in the history of that country for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, and the multiplication of converts. The number added to the churches, by baptism, probably exceeded 100,000, and that the whole number of members was, doubtless, more than 700,000. “How many of these are slaves,” he adds, “I have no means of determining; but, as the baptists are very numerous in the slave-holding states, and as a large proportion of the members are slaves, the number cannot be less than 100,000. It would be gratifying,” Mr Stow proceeds, “to you as well as to myself, if I could assure you that there is an encouraging prospect of the release of these brethren and sisters from unrighteous bondage; but, alas! I fear, in respect to most of them, that the day of their emancipation is remote. Death will probably be their deliverer. There is reason to believe, however, that the anti-slavery cause is now advancing in our churches.”

EAST INDIES.—A letter has been received from the Rev. Messrs Evan and Mack, as secretaries of the Bengal Baptist Association, with a copy of their first circular letter, written by Mr Mack, on Christian Devotedness.

BIRTHS.

April 13, at Newport Pagnell, the wife of Mr JOSIAH BULL, independent minister, of a daughter.

April 28, at Navarino place, Dalston, the wife of Mr JOHN WOOD, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

April 23, at Union chapel, Manchester, by Dr Robert Halley, Mr ERENEZER SOUTHWORTH, to JOANNA, eldest daughter of the late Mr Samuel CLARKE, all of Manchester.

April 23, at Counterslip chapel, Bristol, Mr EVAN EDWARDS, baptist minister of Chard, Somersetshire, to SARAH ANN, eldest daughter of Mr Thomas WINTER, minister of the above place.

April 24, at the independent chapel, Stonehouse, by Mr Thomas Maund, JOHN RIDDLE, Esq., of Brimscombe Post, to Miss WELLS, of Stonehouse.

April 25, by license, at Barbican chapel, by Mr A. Tidman, Mr GEORGE GILL, missionary to the South Seas, to SARAH, youngest daughter of John TREGO, Esq., Coleman street, City.

April 25, at Westgate chapel, Bradford, Yorkshire, by Mr H. Dowson, Mr AMOS KIRKLEY, cloth manufacturer, to Miss E. WADE, both of Farsley.

April 25, at Harrison road chapel, Halifax, by Mr J. M. Obery, Mr ELI CARTER, to Miss PRISCILLA PRIESTLEY, both of that place.

DEATHS.

April 9, at Lancaster, Mr RICHARD TOMLINSON, aged seventy-eight years, departed this life. He was an honour to the Christian religion for fifty years; universally respected by all, and sincerely lamented by his children and the Christian church with which he stood connected.

April 14, at Windsor, Mrs SOPHIA ELIZABETH KELLNER, in her eighty-fourth year, a lineal descendant from Martin Luther, the great champion of protestantism in Germany; from which circumstance, during the lifetime of her late Majesty Queen Charlotte, she was honoured with particular notice and regard.

April 18, at the Abbey, Penzance, suddenly, aged fifty-five years, JOHN CARNE, Esq., author of “Lives of the Most Eminent Missionaries,” and other works. Mr Carne was a member of Queen’s college, Cambridge, and had been ordained deacon by Bishop Luscombe, at Paris, but never officiated as a clergyman in England.

April 23, at Sheffield, JOSIAH FAIRBANK, Esq., one of the society of Friends, aged sixty-six.

April 26, LYDIA SIGOURNEY, the infant daughter of the Rev. Joseph ANGUS, 2, Keene’s row, Walworth.

April 26, at his house, near Charles square, Hoxton, at a very advanced age, Mr H. NRY MOORE, minister of the gospel, the friend and biographer of Wesley.

April 15, at Bromyard, Herefordshire, Mr Joseph Both, aged 46. He was eight years a Wesleyan missionary in Ceylon; for about the same length of time he had held the charge of the independent church at Bromyard.

April 21, at his residence, Clarence square, Cheltenham, M. G. Jones, Esq., formerly of St Paul’s Churchyard, in the 67th year of his age.

April 21, at Newberry, only nine weeks after the death of her beloved daughter, Mrs Palmer, deeply regretted by a large circle of attached friends. The power of religion to sustain through suffering and death were delightfully exhibited in her state of mind.

April 24, in his 71st year, Mr William Chaplin, independent minister, of Bishop’s Stortford, Herts.

April 25, suddenly, in his 67th year, at his residence, 13, Bedford square, Mr Commissioner Merivale, of the Court of Bankruptcy.

Trade and Commerce.

LONDON GAZETTE.

Friday, April 26.

The following buildings are certified as places duly registered for solemnising marriages, pursuant to the act of 6 and 7 William IV, cap. 85:—

The Congregational church, Royston, Hertfordshire.
The independent chapel, Spalding, Lincolnshire.
The Baptist chapel, Crockett, Wiltshire.

BANKRUPTS.
ASHWIN, WILLIAM, Birmingham, steel pen maker, May 15, June 7: solicitor, Mr Rawlins, Birmingham.

BACHE, SHARRINGTON, Peckham, Surrey, builder, May 3, June 7: solicitors, Messrs Buchanan and Grainger, Basinghall street.

BAKE, THOMAS, Chorlton-upon-Medlock, Lancashire, brewer, May 17, June 4: solicitors, Mr J. Dearden, Manchester, and Messrs Johnson and Co., Temple, London.

BLAKE, BENJAMIN WILLIAM, late of 13, City road, merchant, May 7, June 7: solicitors, Messrs Hill and Matthews, Bury court, St Mary Axe.

HAIGH, HENRY, 49, Ratcliff highway, engineer, May 9, June 7: solicitor, Mr W. G. Watts, Bernondsey street.

HARRIS, ROBERT, Liverpool, hotel keeper, May 9, June 7: solicitors, Messrs Norris and Co., 19, Bartlett’s buildings, Holborn, London, and Mr E. Norris, Liverpool.

NEWMAN, ROBERT DAWSON, Leeds, corn factor, May 8, 31: solicitors, Messrs Dunning and Co., Leeds, and Messrs Smithson and Co., Southampton buildings.

PARK, GEORGE, Charles street, Commercial road, Stepney, cow keeper, May 2, June 7: solicitor, Mr J. H. Turner, 8, Chancery lane.

ROBBY, JOHN WALTON, 42, Upper John street, Fitzroy square, builder, May 7, June 12: solicitors, Messrs Walton and Forbes, 3, Warrford court, Throgmorton street.

ROGERS, WATKIN, Newport, Monmouthshire, May 10, June 7: solicitors, M. W. C. and W. Bevan, Bristol, and Messrs E. and R. W. Bennett, Manchester.

SIMPSON, JOHN, jun., and TOFT, WILLIAM, Wakefield, Yorkshire, alkali manufacturers, May 11, June 1: solicitors, Messrs Gregory and Co., Bedford row, London, and Messrs Taylor and Westmoreland, Wakefield.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.
BRUCE, ROBERT, Dundee, tailor, May 2, 28.
REID, ROBERT LAURIE, Edinburgh, grocer, May 3, 24.
SHARP, GEORGE, Newbigging, near Musselburgh, baker, May 2, 23.

SMITH, PETER, Glasgow, cabinet maker, May 1, 22.
WARRACK, Dr JAMES, late of Upper Middlefield of Woodside, Aberdeenshire, May 2, 23.

DIVIDENDS.
W. Dargue, Whitehaven, Cumberland, innkeeper; first and final div. of 9s. in the pound, April 27, or any following Saturday.—G. Walker, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, ship insurance broker; first div. of 3s. 9d. in the pound, April 27, or any following Saturday.—T. Jordan, Long Witton, Northumberland, innkeeper; first and final div. of 6s. 5d. in the pound, April 27, or any following Saturday.—H. Bourne, Wolsingham, Durham, scrivener; first div. of 1s. 6d. in the pound, April 27, or any following Saturday.—W. Fretwell, Leeds, colonial merchant; first div. of 4s. 3d. in the pound, any Tuesday.—G. and W. Boyd, Kingston-upon-Hull, millwrights; first and final div. of 11s. in the pound, any Tuesday.—D. Nicholson, Liverpool, hatter; first div. of 8s. in the pound, April 29, or any following Monday.—H. B. Jones, Birkhead, plumber; first div. of 5s. 6d. in the pound, April 29, or any following Monday.—Ferris and Co., Liverpool, merchants; second div. of 7d. in the pound, April 27, or any following Saturday.

TUESDAY, APRIL 30th.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.
CLIFT, WILLIAM G., Chapel yard, Cross lane, High Holborn, and Ingatstone, Essex, coach builder.

BANKRUPTS.
GOULD, JOSEPH, Sheen, Staffordshire, cheese factor, May 10, June 7: solicitor, Mr John Smith, Birmingham.

JOHNSON, CHARLES, Rochdale, Lancashire, lime dealer, May 11, June 4: solicitors, Messrs Woods and Jackson, Rochdale; Messrs Norris and Co., 19, Bartlett’s buildings, Holborn, London.

MACLEAN, JAMES, 3, Somerset street, Whitechapel, City, carpenter, May 11, June 11: solicitor, Mr B. Burnell, 58, Fenchurch street.

MORREY, GEORGE, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire, publican, May 9, June 8: solicitors, Mr Robinson, Ironmonger lane, London, and Mr J. Stringer, Stratford-upon-Avon.

NICHOLS, CHARLES, Wakefield, Yorkshire, bookseller, May 11, June 6: solicitors, Messrs Willis and Co., Tokenhouse yard, London, and Messrs Taylor and Westmoreland, Wakefield.

PARRY, JOHN, Birmingham, maltster, May 11, June 5: solicitor, Mr Suckling, Birmingham.

FERRINGTON, Knostrop, Yorkshire, soap boiler, May 11, June 1: solicitors, Messrs Williamson and Hill, Gray’s Inn, and Mr Bond, Leeds.

GEORGE EDWARD PHILLIPS, Plymouth, Devonshire, harness maker, May 13, June 6: solicitors, Mr J. E. Elworthy, Plymouth; Mr Strogden, Exeter; and Mr T. Surr, Lombard street, London.

SAMUEL WILCOCKSON, Chesterfield, Derbyshire, linen draper, May 14, June 5: solicitors, Messrs Hardwick and Davidson, Weavers’-hall, London; and Messrs Sale and Worthington, Manchester.

GEORGE FREDERICK WRIGHT, Ironbridge, Shropshire, innkeeper, May 18, June 8: solicitors, Messrs Clark and Gosling, Austin friars, London; Mr Marey, Wellington; and Mr Slaney, Birmingham.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATION.

HUGH CAMPBELL, Glasgow, provision merchant, May 5, 24.

DIVIDENDS.

Wills and Davy, Oxford street, drapers; first div. of 5s. 1d. in the pound, any Wednesday.—C. Parslow, 46, Blackman street, Southwark, tailor; first div. of 2s. in the pound, May 1, and the two following Wednesdays.—C. Altazin, Conduit street, Hanover square, upholsterer; first div. of 6d. in the pound, May 1, and the two following Wednesdays.—D. Thomas, Newport, Monmouthshire, grocer; first div. of 2s. 4d. in the pound, May 1, or any following Wednesday.—W. Haskayne, Liverpool, ship chandler; second div. of 1s. 4d. in the pound, May 9, and any following Thursday.—J. Stuart, Liverpool, draper; first div. of 5s. 6d. in the pound, May 9, or any following Thursday.—D. Rowlands, Pwllheli, Carnarvonshire, dealer in wines; first div. of 3s. in the pound, May 9, or any following Thursday.—Raleigh and Goode, Manchester, merchants; first div. of 5d. in the pound, and under the separate estate of J. Raleigh, first div. of 2s. 11d. in the pound, May 4, and every following Saturday.—T. Berridge, Manchester, tobacconist; first div. of 8s. 6d. in the pound, May 4, and every following Saturday.—George Talbot Knowles, Stockport, Cheshire, cotton spinner; second div. of 6s. 5d. in the pound, May 4, and every following Saturday.—J. Spivey, Lepton, Yorkshire, provision dealer, 1st div. of 4s., any Tuesday.—J. Bowman, Carlisle, woollen draper; first div. of 7d. in the pound, May 4, or any following Saturday.—J. Oliver, Stoney Stratford, Buckinghamshire, banker; first div. of 20s. in the pound, any Wednesday.—J. G. James, 26, Bucklersbury, City, wine merchant; third div. of 13d. in the pound, any Wednesday.—D. Hodgson, Sandwich, Kent, banker; first div. of 2s. 1d. in the pound, May 1, and any following Wednesday.—R. Lyon, High Holborn, cabinet maker; second division of 8d. in the pound, May 1, and any following Wednesday.—R. Yallop, 77, Basinghall street, City, scrivener; first div. of 10d. in the pound, May 1, and any following Wednesday.—E. F. Best, Crutched Friars, City, and Greenwich, Kent, wine merchant; first div. of 2s. 6d. in the pound, May 1, and any following Wednesday.—T. and T. P. Trapp, 1, Church street, St Saviour’s, Southwark, tallow chandlers; first div. of 2s. 6d. in the pound, May 1, and any following Wednesday.—H. and J. Slesinger, Cateaton street, City, warehousemen; first div. of 6d. in the pound, May 1, and any following Wednesday.

BRITISH FUNDS.

The funds continue high, and prices are without variation. Not much business doing.

	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.
3 per cent. Consols	99½	99½	99½	99½	99½	99½
Ditto for Account...	100	100	99½	99½	99½	99½
3 per cent. Reduced	99	99½	99½	99	99	99
New 3½ per cent.	102½	102½	102½	102½	102½	102½
Long Annuities	12½	12½	12½	12½	12½	12½
Bank Stock	—	—	196	196	196	—
India Stock	291	—	289	—	—	—
Exchequer Bills	76pm	76pm	77pm	76pm	75pm	75pm
India Bonds	—	93pm	92pm	—	—	—

RAILWAY SHARES.

Birmingham and Derby	62	London and Brighton	44
Birmingham & Gloucester	93	London & Croydon/Trunk	18
Blackwall	6	London and Greenwich	5
Bristol and Exeter	74	Ditto New	—
Cheltenham & Gt. Western	—	Manchester & Birm.	56
Eastern Counties	13	Manchester and Leeds	112
Edinburgh and Glasgow	66	Midland Counties	90
Great North of England	100	Ditto Quarter Shares	22
Great Western	113	North Midland	90
Ditto Half	72	Ditto New	45
Ditto Fifths	20	South Eastern and Dover	34
London and Birmingham	229	South Western	86
Ditto Quarter Shares	29	Ditto New	—

MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, APRIL 29.

There was but a moderate show of wheat to-day from Essex and Suffolk, but large from Kent. The best runs were taken off at last week’s prices, but every other description hung heavily on hand; and at the close much was still unsold. But a very limited demand for foreign wheat, and prices scarcely maintained.

There was a considerable arrival of foreign barley, but quality and condition being fine, it has gone off pretty freely; and there has been a little more inquiry for English malted corn.

There was a good sale for oats at full prices, and in some instances the consumers have been obliged to give a little advance. Beans and white peas are in request at 1s. advance.

Wheat, Red New	46 to 52	Malt, Ordinary	42 to 52
Fine	52 to 55	Pale	54 to 58
White	46 to 52	Rye	34 to 37
Fine	54 to 60	Peas, Hog	29 to 31
Flour, per sack	39 to 50	Maple	30 to 32
Barley	25 to 30	Boilers	32 to 36
Malt	30 to 36	Beans, Ticks	26 to 30

Beans, Pigeon	30 to 34	Wheat	17s. 0d.
Harrow	27 to 28	Barley	6 0
Oats, Feed	18 to 21	Oats	6 0
Fine	22 to 23	Rye	9 6
Poland	20 to 23	Beans	10 6
Potato	20 to 23	Peas	10 6

Wheat	55s. 4d.	Wheat	55s. 10d.
Barley	32 10	Barley	32 11
Oats	20 2	Oats	20 0
Rye	32 3	Rye	33 3
Beans	31 3	Beans	31 2
Peas	31 5	Peas	31 6

SEEDS.

The seed trade is fast drawing to a close; red cloverseed fully maintains its price, the stock being low, but white is still declining. In quotations of other kinds of seeds no alteration.

PROVISIONS, LONDON, APRIL 29.

There was only a small extent of business done in Irish butter, at prices mostly in favour of the buyers. Foreign of the best quality nearly cleared off; the prices ruled, for Friesland, 80s. to 82s.; Kiel, 74s. to 80s.; Holland, 64s. to 74s. per cwt. For singed bacon there was a sluggish demand, and the transactions rather more limited; but no change worthy of notice in value. Bale middles more saleable, and the turn dearer. Tierces stationary in demand and price. Hams and lard same as last quoted.

HOPS, BOROUGH, MONDAY, APRIL 29.

The demand for hops has not improved, but we have had a few purchases. So long a continuance of inactivity is justly considered as somewhat extraordinary.

BUTCHER’S MEAT, SMITHFIELD, Monday, April 29.
The beef trade was in a sluggish state, and the currencies suffered an abatement of 2d. per 8lbs. At the close of the market a good clearance was effected. The number of sheep well fully

equal to meet the wants of the buyers. Prime old Downs were in demand at full prices, but most other breeds hung heavily on hand. Calves were in moderate supply and sluggish demand, at unaltered figures. The few prime pigs on offer sold freely, other qualities slowly, at late rates.

Price per stone of 14 lbs. (sinking the offal).			
Beef	2s. 4d. to 3s. 10d.	Veal	3s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.
Mutton	2s. 6d. to 3s. 8d.	Pork	3s. 0d. to 4s. 4d.
Lamb	5s. 0d. to 6s. 4d.		

HEAD OF CATTLE AT SMITHFIELD.			
Beasts.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.
Friday 620	8,910	183	376
Monday 2,613	30,090	103	370

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL MARKETS, Monday, April 22.			
Per 8 lbs. by the carcass.			
Inferior Beef 2s. 0d. to 2s. 2d.	Inf. Mutton 2s. 6d. to 2s. 8d.		
Middling do 2s. 4d. to 2s. 6d.	Mid. ditto 2s. 10d. to 3s. 2d.		
Prime large 2s. 8d. to 3s. 0d.	Prime ditto 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.		
Prime small 3s. 0d. to 3s. 2d.	Veal 3s. 4d. to 4s. 4d.		
Large Pork 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d.	Small Pork 3s. 4d. to 4s. 2d.		
Lambs, 4s. 10d. to 6s. 4d.			

POTATOES, BOROUGH, Monday, April 22.

The supplies during the past week have been greater than the demand, and there are a number of former arrivals unsold. There continues to be some cargoes from Belgium, Holland, and Ireland, selling from 40s. to 45s. per ton.

York reds .. per ton	70s. to 90s.	Guernsey	65s. to —s.
Devon do	75 .. 80	Kent and Essex do	40 .. 60
Scottish do	— .. —	Wiltshire	65 .. 70

WOOL.

We have not any alteration to report in the state of the English wool market during the present week. The market continues firm.

HAY, SMITHFIELD, April 27.—At per load of 36 trusses.			
Coarse Meadow .. 50s. to 60s.	New Clover Hay .. 65s. to 100s.		
New ditto	Old ditto		
Useful Old ditto .. 63 .. 68	Oat Straw	25 .. 28	
Fine Upland ditto .. 70 .. 73	Wheat Straw	28 .. 30	

COAL EXCHANGE, April 22.

Stewart's, 22s. 6d.; Hetton's, 22s. 6d.; Braddyll's Hetton's, 22s. 6d. Ships arrived this week, 118.

GROCERIES, TUESDAY, APRIL 30.

COFFEE.—The transactions have been on a large scale. The fall on Ceylons has been about 3s. to 4s. per cwt. Good ordinary qualities selling at 55s. to 56s. Mochas have improved, on the other hand, about 4s. to 5s. per cwt; middling yellow fetching 78s. to 80s.

SUGAR.—The trade bought about 400 hogsheds and tierces of British plantation, at an improvement of 6d. to 1s. per cwt. Holders are not inclined to sell at the present rates, and the lower brown sorts are not to be had under 61s. per cwt. In refined goods the business transacted was extensive, standard lumps fetching 80s. 6d. to 81s., brown lumps 79s. to 80s. per cwt; bonded crushed 25s. 9d. to 26s. per cwt.

CURRANTS.—The alteration in the duty has produced a better demand at higher rates. Patras selling at 50s. to 52s.; Zante and Cephalonia 48s. to 49s. per cwt.

Advertisements.

Just published, price Twopence,

THE UNION MAGAZINE, FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS. CONTENTS OF No. 5, for May. ESSAYS—Counsels to Sunday School Teachers; History of the Sunday School Union; Thoughts suggested to Sunday School Teachers; Bible Teaching. SCRIPTURE ILLUSTRATIONS—Genesis iv. 7; the Enrolment, Luke ii. 1-5; Salutation, Luke x. 4. CORRESPONDENCE—The Senior Scholars of our Sunday Schools; on reading English History; Sunday School Union and the Church Catechism; Attendance of Young Children on Public Worship. REVIEWS—Jamaica, by J. M. Phillippo; Mothers of England; Western Africa, by D. J. East; Morning of Life; Happy Transformation; Baptist Sabbath School Hymn Book, &c.; Sunday School Teacher's Dream; Olmstead into the World to Come; Thoughts on Sacramental Occasions; Peace attained. POETRY—Hymn for an Anniversary, by Mr. Montgomery; Questions to ask Children on their Return from Sunday School. INTELLIGENCE—South-west Kent; Hull; Church of England Sunday School Teachers' Institute; Western Kent Deputation; Croydon; the Conference.

London: SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION, 60, Paternoster row.

THE VOICE OF ISRAEL.

On the 1st of May, 1844, will be published, price 3d., or 4d. Stamped, No. 1 of

THE VOICE OF ISRAEL: a New Monthly Journal, conducted by Jews, who believe in Jesus of Nazareth as the Messiah.

CONTENTS.

Address to our Readers—Proposed Translation of the Bible—History of the Jewish People—Gratitude of the Jews to Queen Victoria—Jews in Russia—The Jewish Inquirer—The Restoration from Babylon—The Prophetic Works of the American Brethren—The Talmud—Reform in Jewish Worship.

Printed and published by J. UNWIN, 31, Bucklersbury, London, and sold by all booksellers and new-men.

Orders for Stamped Copies, to the publisher, must be accompanied by pre-payment, in postage stamps or otherwise.

Buchanan street, Glasgow.

Published this day,

NOTICES of the STATE of RELIGION in GENEVA and BELGIUM. In one vol., small 8vo. Price 4s. 6d., cloth. By H. HUGH, D.D.

II. DISCOURSES on the NATURE and EXTENT of the ATONEMENT of CHRIST. A new and greatly Enlarged Edition, including Replies to Reviewers. In one vol., small 8vo. Price 3s. 6d., cloth. By RALPH WARDLAW, D.D.

III. REVIEWS REVIEWED, or Remarks on the Reviews in the Scottish Presbyterian and United Secession Magazines of "Discourses on the Nature and Extent of the Atonement," being the Prefatory Matter to the New Edition of that Work; printed so as to bind up with the First Edition. Price 1s. in stiff cover. By RALPH WARDLAW, D.D.

IV. INFANT SALVATION; or, an Attempt to Prove that All who die in Infancy are Saved. Third Edition, enlarged. In one vol., small 8vo. Price 3s. 6d., cloth. By DAVID RUSSELL, D.D.

V. REMARKS upon a PAMPHLET entitled, "The Doctrine of the Universal Atonement Examined," ascribed to the Rev. David Thomas of Mauchline. In 8vo, price 6d. By AN ENGLISH CONGREGATIONAL MINISTER.

VI. MEMOIRS of the REV. WILLIAM LINDSAY, of Letham, Forfarshire. Second Edition, price 1s. cloth. Recently published.

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VIII. Dr WARDLAW'S SERMON on the PRINCIPLES of CHRISTIAN COMMUNION. Price 1s.

IX. Dr WARDLAW'S SERMON on the LAMENTED DEATH of the Rev. JOHN MORELL MACKENZIE, A.M., who perished on board the Pegasus. Third Edition, with a Documentary Appendix. Price 1s.

X. Dr RUSSELL (Author of Letters Practical and Consolatory) on the OLD and NEW COVENANTS. Second Edition, in one thick volume. Price 6s. 6d., cloth. JAMES McLEOD, Glasgow; ADAM and CHARLES BLACK, Edinburgh; JACKSON and WILFORD, and HAMILTON, ADAMS, and Co., London.

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